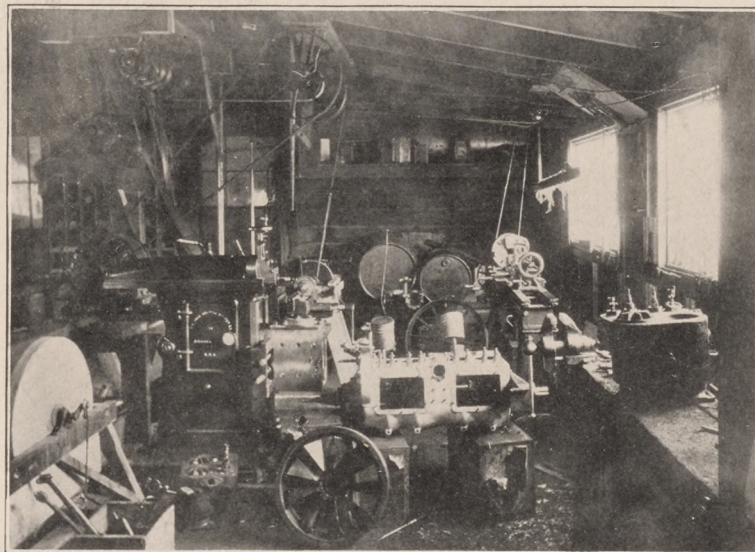


MODOC COUNTY

California Anno Domini 1912





INTERIOR MACHINE SHOP

THE GARAGE OF LAMB & SONS was first established in September, 1907, and consisted of a small shed and one automobile. At that time there were only three machines besides theirs in the entire county. At the present time their plant has been increased to accommodate 18 cars, and their machine shop is equipped to do all kinds of repair work. Next spring their buildings will be further enlarged, more machinery installed, and their garage will be the most up-to-date and best-equipped one north of Sacramento. None but the most expert mechanics are employed and all work is absolutely guaranteed.

LAMB & SONS now own and operate five cars. They have run an auto stage line over the mountain between Cedarville and Alturas, a distance of 25 miles, for the last two years. They have never had an accident, nor have they missed a single trip, except on account of storms. Their cars have run over 85,000 miles and are all of them in commission still. This is a record to be proud of, and shows conclusively that LAMB & SONS are experts in the running and taking care of automobiles.

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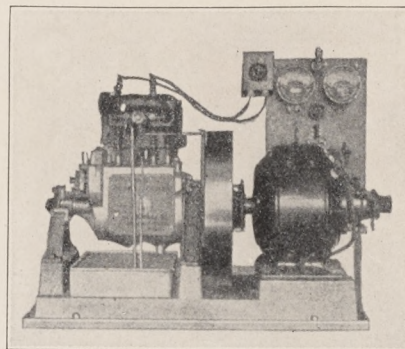
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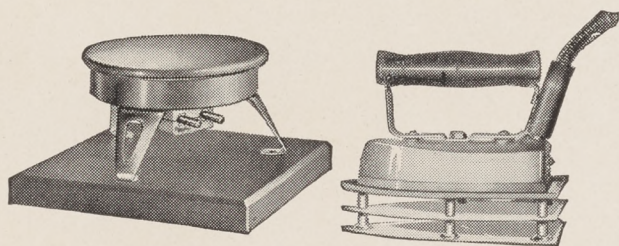
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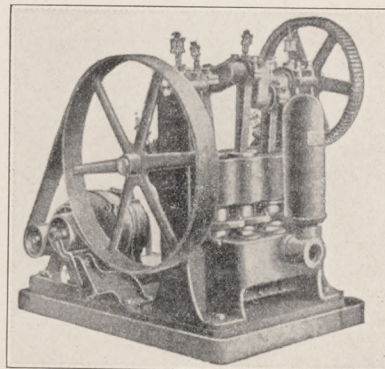
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A HISTORICAL, BIOGRAPHICAL AND
PICTORIAL MAGAZINE

DEVOTED TO

MODOC COUNTY

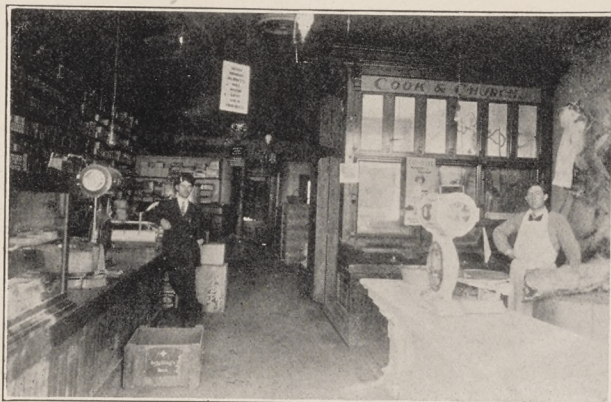
PUBLISHED BY

The Alturas Plaindealer

Anno Domini
1912

COMPILED BY

R. A. FRENCH, Business Manager



NONPAREIL
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DEALERS IN
GROCERIES OF ALL
KINDS

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DEALERS IN
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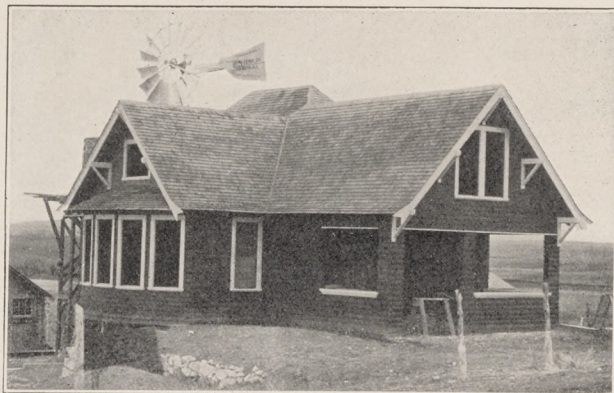
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BEAT FOR QUALITY
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MAIN STREET :: ALTURAS, CAL

BILLICK & KEENE

CONTRACTORS & BUILDERS

ALTURAS, CALIFORNIA



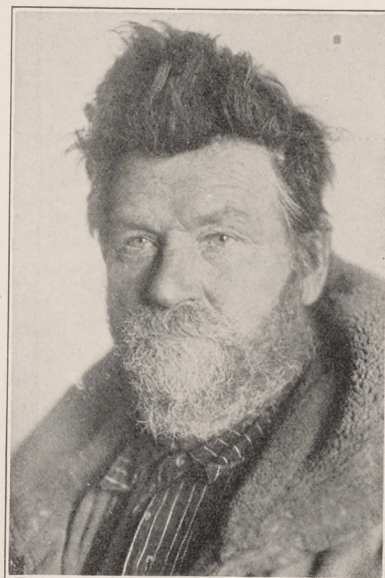
DWELLING IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION
DESIGNED AND PLANS DRAWN BY
W. L. KEENE

PLANS & ESTIMATES FURNISHED



Jno. D. Riesen
PHOTOGRAPHER

BOX 204
ALTURAS, CALIFORNIA



A BABY today; tomorrow A CHILD, and then for a few short years A YOUTH. Young womanhood and young manhood follow, and who would like to forget the great day at the marriage altar? A little later we all arrive at middle age, and then if the Reaper overlooks us once more, gray hair and venerable old age are with us. How fortunate for us some day if we can turn to our album and recall the happy past, step by step, by means of good, true-to-life PORTRAITS. Your actions today only can make these pleasures possible tomorrow!

Dedication

*To the Pioneers of Modoc County this
magazine is respectfully dedicated*

Foreword

THIS MAGAZINE is published with the idea of giving a truthful and detailed description of the natural advantages and resources of Modoc County. The facts and pictures have been gathered by careful research and travel throughout the county, and with the co-operation of the business men, ranchers, and stockmen.

Early History of Modoc County

THE early history of Modoc County was one long series of battles and massacres with the savages then inhabiting the country. Indeed, it early became known as the "Dark and Bloody Ground" of the Pacific. From the day the immigrants entered the country until they had passed beyond its borders it was one series of skirmishes and battles.

The beautiful valleys abounding in game of every description, lakes swarming with wild fowl and fish, and hills covered with edible roots and wild fruits, nurtured a race of savages that for fierceness, courage and self-reliance, were perhaps without a parallel on the continent. Their final overthrow, however, was accomplished in 1873 by combined forces of the United States and the militia of two States. Since that time peace has prevailed and the country joined in the onward march of civilization.

The first settlers began coming into the country in 1864, locating in Surprise Valley. In 1870-1 a few venturesome pioneers located on Pit River, so named from the innumerable pits dug by the Indians in trapping game. A few others came to Goose Lake Valley, but there was no general movement made for the settlement of the country until after the close of the Modoc war in 1873.

Stories of the beauty of the country had filtered down through various channels from the early days when the immigrants forced and fought their way to their goal in the Sacramento and other parts of northern California and southern Oregon. They told of valleys of surpassing richness, of vast stretches of meadow land, of hills covered with luxurious grass and mountains crowned by a primeval forest. The soil was described as of surpassing richness, the lakes, rivers and smaller streams of unequaled beauty. As soon, therefore, as the Indian troubles were ended hundreds forsook the sun-baked plains below and came with their flocks and herds to find homes in the valleys of Modoc.

The immigrants coming into Modoc County were a superior class of men, and soon churches and school houses began to appear in every section of the county. Home seekers, therefore, need not expect to find here even the remnants of the "wild and woolly west." On the contrary, they will find a hospitable, peaceloving, pro-

gressive citizenry, ranking in intelligence with any portion of our great country.

The stock men who were the pioneers in Modoc County were of a necessity a strong, hardy and fearless class of men, and it was they who blazed the trail for the development of its wonderful possibilities. In the early days from 1865 to as late as 1879 and 1880 it was possible to ride for miles in almost any direction without encountering a single fence, except that surrounding some dwelling or stock corral. The fact that the range seemed unlimited caused the stock men to refrain from raising any hay for winter feeding. There came a year, however, when the winter swept down on a totally unprepared people and the result was that thousands of cattle starved to death and many of the stock men were almost completely ruined. This one season taught them a valuable lesson, and quick to learn, they began to till the land, raise hay and be prepared against any repetition of the disaster which so nearly ruined them. Foreseeing the time when such a rich fertile territory would become more widely known, the early settlers began acquiring by pre-emption, purchase and other means as much land as possible to protect themselves and give their cattle plenty of grazing room. Many of those pioneers to-day own ranches of from one thousand to five and six thousand acres. In the early days land could be acquired from the government in a great many ways, while to-day it is impossible for any one man to gain such immense holdings except by purchase from people who own them.

Where in the early days cattle could roam at large over the hills and valleys, the United States Government now has established Forest Reserves, under the control of the Forest Service, and not only are the stock men limited as to the number of cattle that can be put on the reserve, but the time is also limited, the cattle being allowed to graze on the reserve only between certain stipulated dates. The number of sheep and time for grazing is also limited and the sheep must be herded and kept on their own portion of the reserve. The capacity of the range is estimated and the number of cattle or sheep limited to come within the estimate. Last year, according to the reports from the cattle men, the cattle came out in much better shape than when the range was overrun.



CATTLE ON LAKE SHORE CATTLE CO.'S RANCH, DAVIS CREEK.

Photo by Riesen, Alturas.

Location and General Topography

MODOC COUNTY is situated in the extreme north-eastern part of California. On the north the county is bounded by Oregon, the division line running through the town of New Pine Creek. On the east Nevada runs parallel with Surprise Valley; on the south it is bounded by Lassen and Shasta counties, and on the west by Siskiyou County.

The county contains an area of 2,622,080 acres, many acres of which are still government land and open for entry. The beautiful lofty mountains known as the Warner Range extend north and south through the county. To the east of these mountains lies the valley of Surprise; to the west the valleys of Goose Lake and Pit River elevated above sea level to from 3,500 to 5,000 feet. The country extending west from Goose Lake to Tule Lake is a great plateau, which is included in the Forest Reserve and is an ideal stock range. Part of this large acreage is heavily timbered with pine, juniper, fir, and cedar. The ground is covered with a heavy growth of bunch grass.

On the western extremity of this plateau, just south of Tule Lake, are situated the lava beds; a small portion, however, lies in Modoc County, but it was here on the edge of Tule Lake that the Indians led by Captain Jack made their last stand against the United States Army.

THE TULE LAKE COUNTRY.

The irrigation and reclamation system now being perfected in the Tule Lake country by the Government promises to make that section an important part of Modoc County. The Clear Lake reservoir, it is estimated by government engineers, will reclaim about 45,000 acres of arid land. The reservoir has already been completed and only awaits the excavation of the canals and laterals to open up a vast area of rich and fertile land. This will be done as soon as other units of the great Klamath irrigation system are completed.

A dam has been thrown across Lost River which will divert its waters into Klamath River, Oregon thus reclaiming something like 70,000 acres of rich fertile land around the margin of the lake. A large part of this land lies in Modoc County, and will afford homes for hundreds of settlers.



ON THE J. T. SPAULDING RANCH.

LITTLE HOT SPRINGS.

In the southwestern corner of Modoc County, seventy-five miles from the county seat, lies Little Hot Springs, one of the most productive valleys of Modoc County.

On the west it is bordered by a part of the famous Modoc Lava Beds, and on the east by a steep and timbered mountain, from which two mountain streams come roaring into the valley, spending their unused power on the boulders as they pass, and after doing justice to the gardens and orchards, they are allowed to ramble at will over the meadows below.

Several hundred tons of red top, timothy, and meadow oats are cut each year off the meadows, and on the higher land alfalfa grows in abundance.

The orchards each year produce tons of apples, the flavor of which is not surpassed anywhere, to say nothing of the pears, peaches, plums, and prunes that load the trees almost to breaking.

Tons of potatoes and tomatoes are grown each year in the gardens, and an abundance of cabbage, carrots, turnips, lettuce, peppers, and other vegetables are to be found wasting on the ground. Vegetables are to be had for the planting.



Hundreds of melons are produced each year, which are noted throughout the country for flavor and size.

Thus this little valley with its two thousand six hundred acres of cultivated land is the garden spot of the adjoining valleys.

The most important industry, as yet, is the raising of horses, cattle, sheep, and hogs. The latter fatten themselves upon the acorns in the fall. In the winter the stock are protected from the snow and cold winds by the timber and the mountains, and they spend their time browsing on the brush. In the morning they come out of the hills for their feed, drink the warm water from the hot springs, eat a little hay and go to the hills again. With only half the hay fed at other places in the country, the cattle come out fat in the spring.

Yet with all the fine range the farmers are beginning to realize that not in cattle but in alfalfa seed lies their future wealth. The valley, protected from the spring frosts

by the mountains, makes alfalfa seed a sure and valuable crop.



PRIZE ANGORA GOAT ON SPAULDING RANCH,
LITTLE HOT SPRINGS.



1. GARDEN ON GOOCH RANCH IN BIG VALLEY. 2. CANBY'S CROSS, TULE LAKE. 3. RANCH OF J. P. HARTER, TULE LAKE. 4. APPLE TREE IN NOVEMBER. 5. RHODE ISLAND RED CHICKENS, BRONZE TURKEYS, SPICER RANCH, ALTURAS.

BIG VALLEY.

This valley lies near the southwestern corner of the county. It has an elevation of 4,200 feet, and is the home of many prosperous ranchers, farmers, and business men. The town of Lookout is situated on the Pit River in the northwestern part of Big Valley and contains a population of about one hundred people. The most important business houses consist of a general merchandise store of George H. Knight, the hotel of C. E. Keeney, blacksmith shop of Leventon Bros., and a livery stable. Dairying is conducted on a small scale by the ranchers, but only as a side issue. The western end of the county, including Round Valley and the town of Adin is ably described by Farley M. Auble in the following article:

ADIN AND WESTERN MODOC COUNTY.

Adin is situated in the southwestern portion of Modoc County, on a beautiful mountain stream, Ash Creek, and lies just between two of the richest valleys, so far as soil, climate, and natural resources are concerned, in the great West.

To-day, Adin presents one of the prettiest home spots to be found in Northern California. Although it is a small town, having a population of only 250, it is well improved, neat and clean, having no old tumble-down or dilapidated buildings of any kind, evidence in itself of the fact that the people are enterprising and prosperous. It has a good water system for fire protection, electric lights and electric power as modern conveniences.

Its business houses consist of the Exchange and City Hotels, four general merchandise stores, LeRoy Lee's drug store, F. D. Harbert's Livery and Feed Stable, two blacksmith shops, a sash and door factory, Mrs. A. L. Shepard's Roller Process Flouring Mills, C. L. Bennett's Harness and Saddlery, a First Congregational church, and a public school that ranks with the best in the county.

Ash Creek, which heads in Ash Valley, Lassen County, about seventeen miles southeast of Adin, and runs directly through the town, spreads, a few miles to the west, and overflows a vast acreage known as The Swamp, from which thousands of tons of natural hay is cut every year.

The bottom lands along the banks of this never-failing stream cannot be excelled in any country. The soil is rich, deep, and productive of anything that soil can produce in a temperate zone. Wheat, barley, oats, rye, apples, plums, pears, and all kinds of garden truck, and berries, grow, thrive, and mature here.

Two crops of alfalfa grow rank here during one season, and yield from three to five tons to the acre.

We may best understand the character of the soil by classifying it as to the various sorts, of which, we may say, there are three. These are: The mountain slopes, which produce timber and an abundance of range feed, principally bunch grass; the natural meadows, with their abundance of hay; and the lands adapted to artificial productions. The timber land must be regarded as a great convenience, both Big Valley and Round Valley being fringed with wooded hills, making lumber and fuel so easy to get, that it is scarcely to be counted as an expense, to provide for moderately of either. The mountains and hills where the timber and bunch grass are found are mostly vacant and unfenced lands, making them a source of great value, as well as convenience, to the farmer and stock-raiser.

The possibilities of irrigation here have not been taken much advantage of except in a very few places. There



Photo by Riesen.

STORE OF GEORGE H. KNIGHT, LOOKOUT.

are a great many thousands of acres of land now lying idle, or nearly so, which, with a little enterprise, might be brought under profitable cultivation by means of irrigation. Water is no scarcity.

The abundant snow-fall in the mountains during the winter supplies sources for numerous streams, most of which now go to waste, or are used incidentally, as they spread out in an occasional swamp. It admits of no doubt, that both the acreage and the yield per acre of hay and grain will be vastly increased within a few years. Within the last few years, much land which had formerly been abandoned to wild sage brush, has been cleared and sown to alfalfa and grain, to the very great profit of the enterprising farmer.

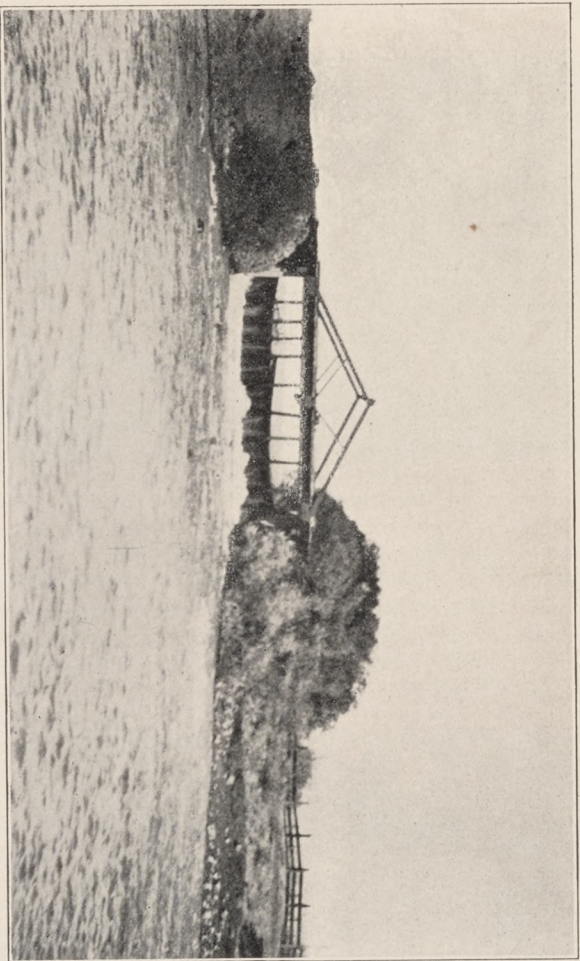
The farming land is not generally fully developed or well cared for. Very little, if any, of the good lands available for farming are worked up to their full capacity for production, and thousands of acres are not cultivated at all.

There are several reasons for these existing conditions. The newness of the country and the limited market for the produce of the soil have probably the most significant effect upon the production. But in this connection, the point of interest is, not what is or has been done, but what evidently can be done. As matters are now, there is always plenty of produce for home consumption. Such a thing as a complete failure of crops here, has never been known.

The want of a convenient market has been assigned as a reason why the agricultural land of this section, and of all of Modoc County, has not been made to produce as much as it could. We are at present thirty-three miles from the railroad and the cost of transportation is so much that very little has ever been exported, and that little, only when there has been a complete failure of crops in other places, and unusually large ones here, which created a difference in prices equal to the heavy cost of transportation. Unusual conditions cannot, however, be taken as a basis of calculation, and it has always been the habit of the people not to depend upon distant markets to take the produce of their farms.

Stock-raising, therefore, has become the leading industry, and the one which is expected to bring into the country its greatest increase of wealth.

The extensive and well-watered pasture lands, both vacant and under title, and the rich meadows, with their copious productions of hay, supply the most important requirements for successful stock-raising.



CONCRETE DAM AT LOOKOUT.



ADIN, CALIFORNIA.



ROUND VALLEY, IN WESTERN MODOC COUNTY.



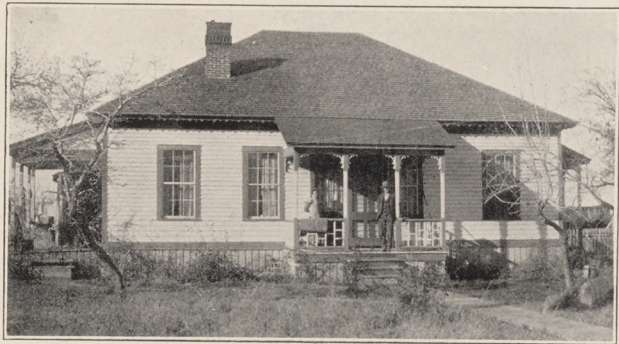
ADIN FISHING STREAM, ASH CREEK.

The beginning of a new era in industrial life appears to be at hand in this section of Modoc County, Big and Round valleys. Competition is sharpening among business men; system and method are beginning to find a place upon farms and in homes where only irregularity and disorder had formerly been established.

The question of dairying is coming up in this section, and there is no question but that in no distant future dairying will rank No. 1 among the industries here. This will surely be another great source of income, for the adaptability of our grassy vales and hillsides to dairy purposes is admirable. All these changes, occurring and about to occur, look toward better times.

With the means of transportation at our door, many of our possibilities will be converted into realities. Our grain, fruit, and vegetable industries, and the products of our dairies, and poultry yards, will receive a more extended attention. A new immigration, with a new life and new ideas, will be gradually distributed among us.

Already on every hand can be seen the silent influence of our bettered prospects. Houses are being improved, more lands are being cultivated, orchards are receiving more attention, and the dairy is being discussed as a profitable industry.



RESIDENCE OF R. B. CLARK, ADIN.

While these few lines are applied to this section, they are also applicable to all of Modoc County, and while they but very imperfectly present all that may be truthfully said, we submit them with the hope that they may be the means of inducing some one more competent, to give to the outside world something more worthy of our "section."



ADIN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

Separated from Round Valley and Big Valley by a small range of heavily timbered mountains, is located Stone Coal Valley and Hot Spring Valley. Stone Coal is a small valley containing about 2,300 acres of rich bottom lands and fine grain and alfalfa land. It is owned by D. Sherer and J. A. Johnson.

Hot Spring Valley, extending along both sides of Pit River for a distance of nearly twenty-five miles, is composed of rich bottom lands on which timothy hay and similar hay is grown in great quantities. The higher lands running up toward the foothills are especially well adapted for raising grain and alfalfa. This valley is an ideal place for dairying purposes, the bottom lands being suitable for raising all kinds of beets, carrots, etc. Many of the ranches have hundreds of acres of land the surface of which is nearly as level as a floor. The pioneers who settled in Hot Spring Valley in the early seventies are nearly all of them independently wealthy to-day, and while most of them made their money in raising beef cattle and fine horses, they are rapidly disposing of their stock and turning their attention to agriculture.

There is ample water in Hot Spring Valley for irrigating purposes, thereby assuring plentiful crops to the farmer.

Poultry, turkeys, and ducks also form a profitable sideline for the ranchers. Of the latter, Mr. A. F. Spicer, whose ranch is in the upper end of Hot Spring Valley, has experimented quite a little, and Mrs. Spicer now has a flock of Indian Runner ducks, which have proved to be a paying investment. The eggs are considered superior



STONE COAL VALLEY.

Photo by Riesen.

to hens' eggs and the birds themselves are fine eating. Unlike the ordinary duck, it is unnecessary to have a pond of water for them, and they are as tame as chickens and will not try to follow the wild ducks which come to the ranch by the hundreds. The eggs command from 10 to 15 cents per dozen more than hens' eggs.

Canby, situated about twenty-two miles from Alturas, is comprised of a postoffice, general merchandise store, blacksmith shop and hotel. It is the only town in the prosperous Hot Spring Valley and is also the postoffice for Stone Coal Valley.

EARLY HISTORY OF ALTURAS.

In the month of May, 1870, P. A. Dorris and Henry Fitzhugh rode into the Pit River Valley in search of grazing land for their cattle. There were at that time no settlers in Hot Spring Valley and in their quest of land they found the valley waving with high grass.

Considering that they had found the stock man's paradise, P. A. Dorris located swamp land near the Pit River. This was the beginning of the big stock ranch of W. J. & P. S. Dorris, containing about 5,000 acres, all under cultivation.

Mr. Dorris then returned to his home in Shasta County and sent out a band of cattle to turn on his claim. When they reached the Pit River it was found necessary to build a bridge before they could cross. Around this bridge, built of Juniper, there sprung up a settlement which for many years was called "Dorris Bridge." During the first summer Preston Hayes and Martin Kelley came from Shasta County and settled east of the bridge. Among the other arrivals at that time were Jim Dorris and family from Oregon, C. J. Dorris from Shasta County, Mrs. Payne, who later married Mr. Preston Hayes; Charles Payne, and Henry Payne from Shasta County. The Dorris brothers had taken pre-emption claims on the south side of the river and had each built a cabin. C. J. Dorris was just a little southwest of the bridge and situated conveniently for the travel, for then there were settlers in Surprise Valley, Goose Lake Valley, and Adin. The most traveled road was to Yreka, the county seat, trading and supply town for the very large county of Siskiyou.

James Dorris, wanting to keep a wayside inn, exchanged claims with C. J. Dorris, and enlarging the cabin, established it as a resting place for the weary travelers. It was not much of a hotel but a substantial meal was provided, although the variety of food was limited.

In 1872 Columbus Dorris came from Solano County, and buying Henry Fitzhugh's right to the swamp land and taking a pre-emption claim for himself, returned to Solano County and brought his family, consisting of his mother, wife and children, back with him.

C. J. Dorris, P. A. Dorris, James Dorris, Columbus Dorris, and Preston Hayes, the original settlers of Dorris Bridge, are now dead.

Mrs. Rachel Dorris, wife of Columbus Dorris, is still alive, as is also Mrs. Preston Hayes. In speaking of their arrival, Mrs. Rachael Dorris says: "At this time Hot Spring Valley was little more than waving grass and sage brush. Where Alturas now stands there was the little log cabin inn, one partly built plank house, commenced for a store. The plank was hauled from Lakeview. The store never materialized, and Columbus Dorris bought the house and made a dwelling of it. The only fencing was a stock corral, a short distance southeast of the bridge. A little later, however, in 1873, a store was established by E. Lauer & Sons, and their business increased as the town grew up around them until to-day they have the largest mercantile establishment in Modoc County.

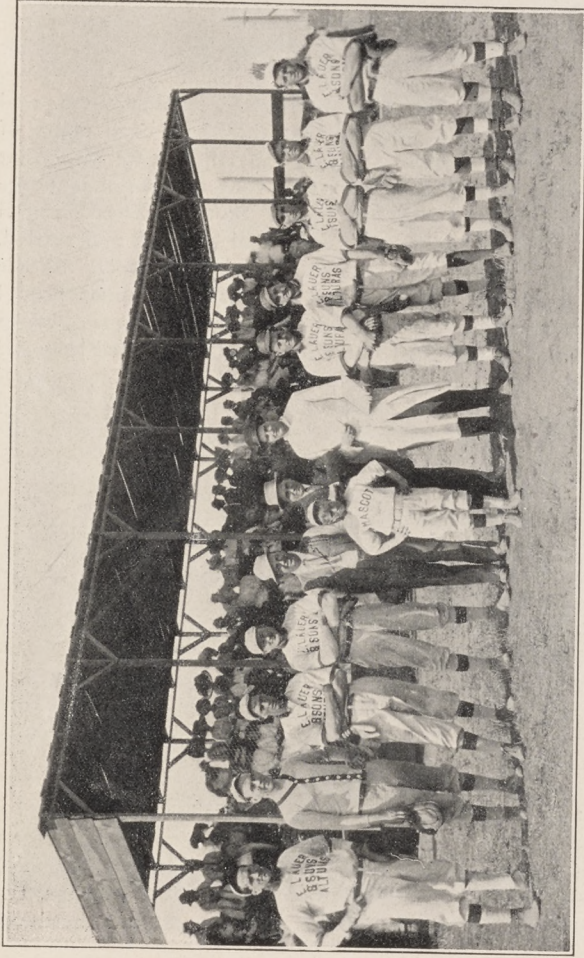


INDIAN HIEROGLYPHS IN CAVE.

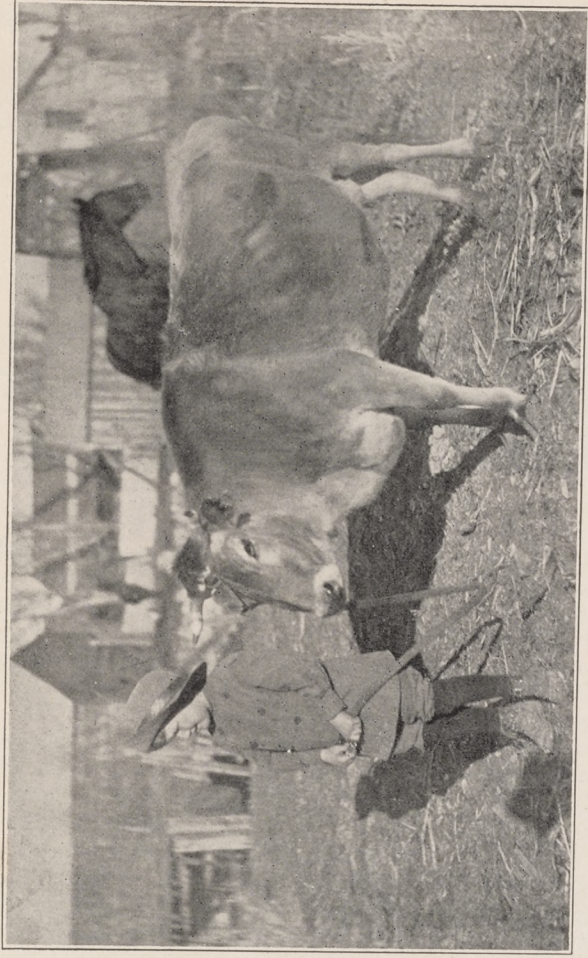
It was indeed a wild and desolate looking place, with but few people in the valley at that time. But the few had come to subdue the wilds and make homes. Many were the self-denials and hardships endured by these. There were several small gardens planted on the river bottom near the bridge, but in those early years all were killed by the frost, even the hardiest vegetables. There seemed no promise for the farmer. But the stock did well on the range, and it was to raise stock that people had come to this part of the State. So they tried to be contented and make the best of their surroundings. Some were a little afraid of the Indians at that time. They had not long been conquered by General Crook, and the whites were not sure that they could be trusted. But only a few years after, when they knew them better, and were under the necessity of hiring them in the hay fields, they found them intelligent, quick to learn, and willing to work. When the whites first came among them they were extremely destitute, having no clothing except a few rabbit skins, and but little else. Some of them told the whites that the Piutes and Modocs warred against them, and robbed them of everything that they had, even many of women and children, and said that they were glad that the white people were here, that they now lived in peace and had plenty to wear and to eat. So time passed on until 1873. Quite a number of people had come in and settled, and built homes. But they had no place to meet. So the men folks got together and discussed the matter, and agreed to build a hall, to be used for all purposes, when the people wished to come together. And indeed they did use it, for meetings of all kinds. They had it finished about the time that Modoc County was struck off from Siskiyou County, and celebrated by holding a dance in the company hall. And it served us for a court house until such time as they could build the present one. The summer of 1873 there was a great many herds of stock driven in; so many that the range was overstocked and the grass eaten off very short. Then came the first hard winter that we knew anything about, and found us wholly unprepared for it. The result was that it almost ruined many of the stock men and taught them that it was never safe to try to winter stock unless provision was made for feeding during the winter. Seeing our county as it then was, and now is, I feel that we have just cause to be proud of it."

ALTURAS TO-DAY.

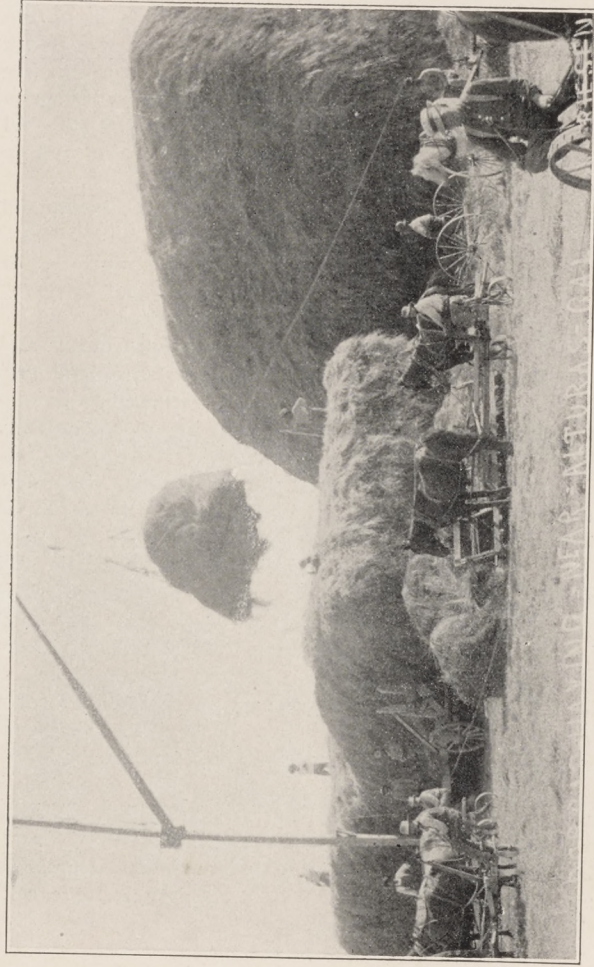
Alturas is the county seat of Modoc County and a regularly incorporated town of 1,500 inhabitants. It contains two large mercantile establishments, seven smaller general stores, two drug stores, two saddlery shops, two butcher shops, three weekly newspapers, one hardware



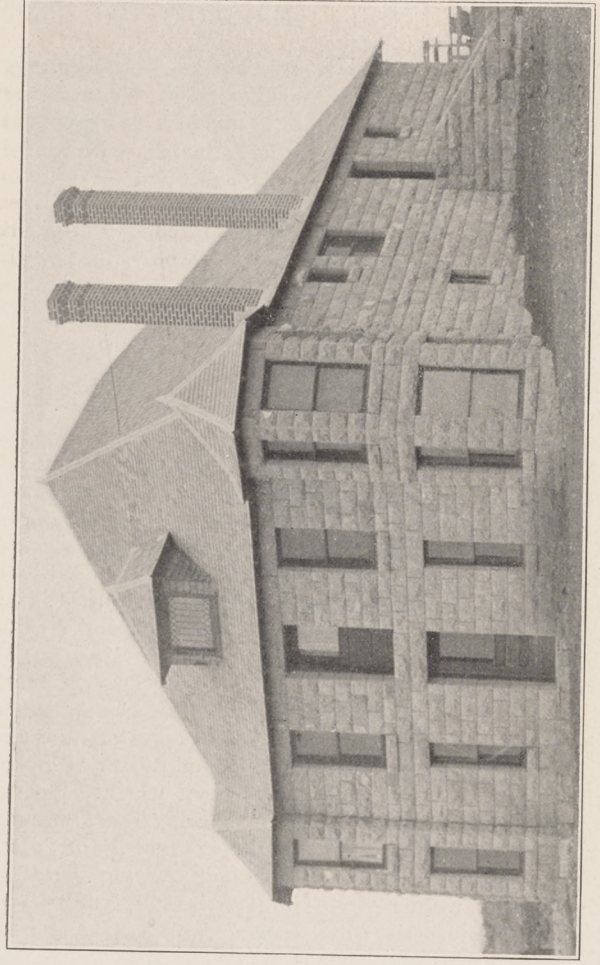
ALTURAS TIGERS.



REGISTERED JERSEY COW, OWNED BY R. L. SLOSS, ALTURAS.



HAYING ON DORRIS RANCH, NEAR ALTURAS.



RESIDENCE OF C. BROWN, ALTURAS.

Photos by Riesen.



DORRIS RANCH HOUSE, NEAR ALTURAS.

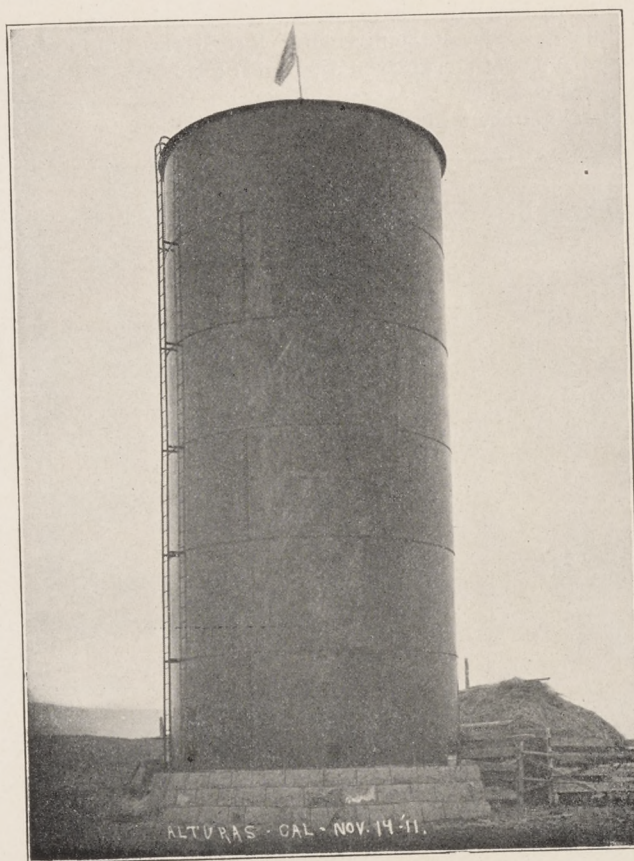
Photo by Riesen.

store and plumbing shop, three hotels, three restaurants, one livery stable, two blacksmith shops, two banks, a photo studio, jewelry store, one brewery, and seven saloons. It also contains one garage and repair shop, and another one will be started this summer. Here is also the County High School, Grammar School, and County Court House. Three churches, each with a good building, are represented here, the Baptist, Congregational, and Roman Catholic.

Alturas at the present time is the division terminal of the Nevada, California & Oregon Railroad, which runs from Reno, Nevada, to Lakeview, Oregon. The trains, both north and south, stop over night in Alturas. The last two years has seen a big improvement in the town, buildings have been erected by the score, taxing the capacity of the lumber mills and brick yard for material. In 1911 building permits were issued totaling \$100,160, included in which is \$22,000 for a new brick and stone school house which is nearly completed.

In 1911 the town also installed a complete water system reaching to every section of the incorporated limits. The town is electric lighted, the electric company also furnishing power for the water works and all the various machinery. The Alturas opera house is one of the best equipped in Northern California, and a great many well-known theatrical troupes play here. The flour mill of E. Lauer & Sons furnishes a very fine grade of flour, made from the wheat grown in Modoc County. A free library with all the latest books is also a feature of the town.

The Forest Supervisor's office is located in Alturas, and from this office any information in regard to matters relating to the forest reserves can be obtained. Alturas has a Chamber of Commerce of about 150 members. It is a live organization and the secretary will be glad to answer questions regarding any section of the county.



STAND PIPE, ALTURAS WATER WORKS.

Photo by Riesen.

The town has two telegraph offices, both connecting at Reno with either the Western Union or Postal Union Telegraph Companies, thus insuring a quick communication with all points on their lines. A complete telephone system connecting every portion of the county also centers in Alturas. Through telephone connections can be had from the local offices to Reno, Nev., Sacramento, and San Francisco.

Stage for Surprise Valley leaves Alturas every day except Sunday, and stages for Big Valley and the western portion of the county leave Alturas every other day.

Alturas has at the present time one of the finest concert bands in Northern California. It also boasts of a baseball nine second to none in either Northern California or Southern Oregon. In the big baseball tournament held last July the "Alturas Tigers" were not defeated once.

Among the well-known fraternal organizations, the Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Eastern Star, Native Sons, Native Daughters, Ancient Order of Foresters, Modern Woodmen, Woodmen of the World, Royal Neighbors, and a number of others have lodges established in Alturas.

LIKELY.

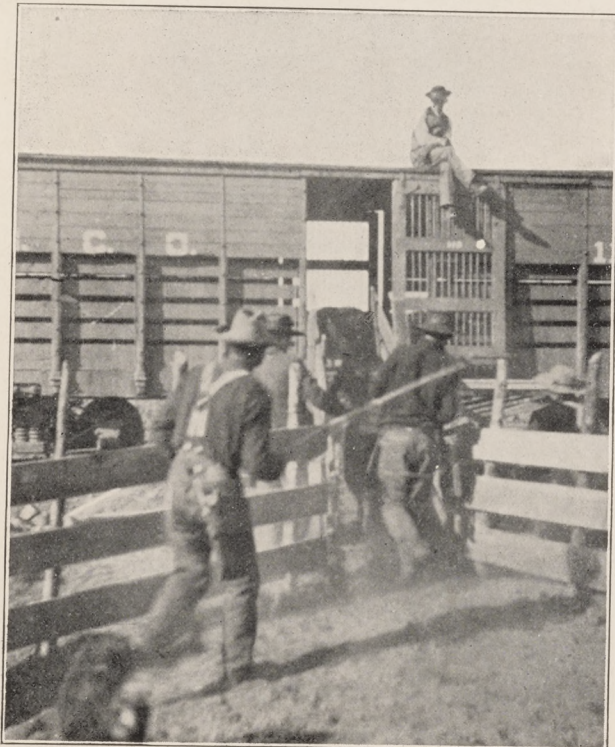
The town of Likely is situated in the upper end of the South Fork Valley, about twenty miles south of Alturas. It lies in the center of a vast acreage of rich land and is one of the oldest settlements in Modoc County.

When the first settlers built the town it was known as South Fork, but the Government refused to allow that name to be used for a postoffice as there was already one postoffice of that name in California. The residents sent four petitions to Washington with names for the town, but each time were turned down. Some one suggested it was not likely they ever would get a name, when another man spoke up and said, "What is the matter with calling the town Likely." The name was given and accepted.

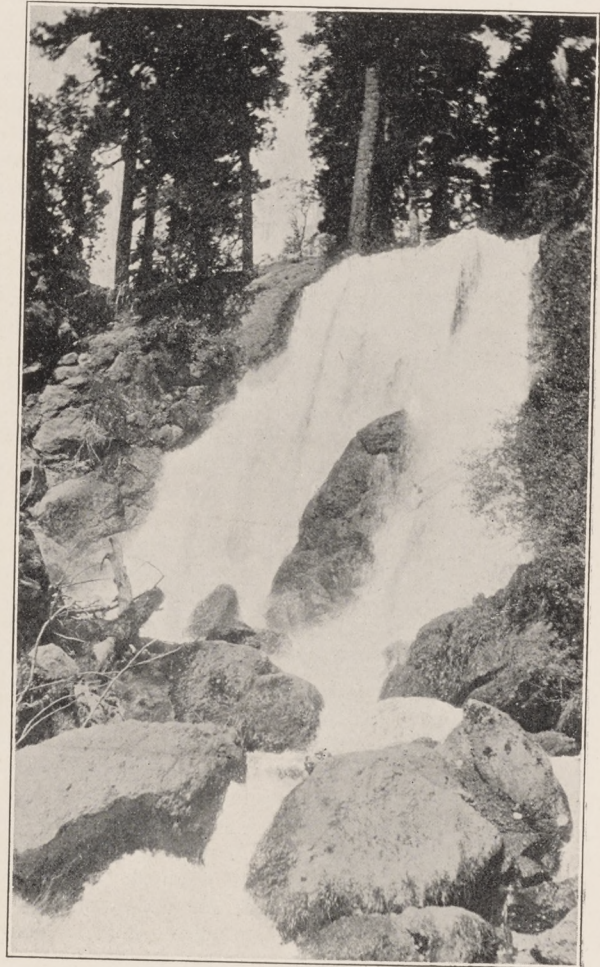
Likely is the shipping center for all the South Fork country, being a regular station on the Nevada, California & Oregon Railroad. It contains several hotels, and a large general merchandise store owned by J. D. Flournoy & Son.



SHEARING SHEEP AT LIKELY.



LOADING HOGS AT LIKELY.



FALLS ON MILL CREEK, JESS VALLEY.

With the abundance of tillable land surrounding it and the lumber trade from the Jess Valley lumbering district to support it, and with the cutting up and colonizing of the big ranches bringing in added population and increased business, the town of Likely will continue to grow and prosper.

Jess Valley, situated high up in the Warner range, 1,000 feet above Likely and about twelve miles distant, contains an area of about 7,000 acres of rich agricultural land suitable for grain and alfalfa. There is an abundance of water for all purposes and this valley, while small, is one of the best in the county. All kinds of vegetables and berries grow there and also all kinds of fruits.

GOOSE LAKE VALLEY.

One of the most productive of the many valleys in Modoc County is that bordering the shores of Goose Lake. Beginning at the town of Lakeview, about fifteen miles north of the Oregon line, it runs south along the foothills of the Warner range for a distance of nearly forty miles. It extends around the north end of the lake and down both sides. The east side of the lake has been more thickly settled and its resources more developed than the west, but the nature of the soil is practically the same. In Goose Lake Valley is raised everything in the way of grains and alfalfa, while along the foothills the apple, king of all fruits, is grown in its perfection. The famous John Briles Orchards, apples from which have taken first prize wherever exhibited, are located in this valley just north of the

town of Davis Creek. Timothy hay, eight feet tall with heads over ten inches in length, was raised in this valley by Mr. C. M. Oliver, specimens of which sent to the United States Agricultural Department were declared to be the finest ever seen by the experts in charge.

Pears, peaches, plums, and other kindred fruits are raised in abundance and noted for their rich, fine flavor, while berries and garden vegetables find in the soil and climate of Goose Lake Valley the ideal combination for maturing to perfection.

Orchard pests are unknown in Goose Lake Valley.

The towns of Goose Lake Valley are as follows: New Pine Creek is situated on the Oregon-California line, fifteen miles south of the town of Lakeview. It has a population of about 300, contains two flour mills, a lumber mill, two general stores, a hotel and several smaller business houses. The electric light plant which furnishes light and power for New Pine Creek and Lakeview is also located there.

Two other postoffices in Goose Lake Valley are Willow Ranch, about the middle of the lake, and Davis Creek at the southern end.

There is no store at Willow Ranch, but at Davis Creek there are two general merchandise establishments, one or two smaller stores, and two hotels. The community, however, around these two places is closely settled and is in a thriving condition. Davis Creek is situated just north of Alturas, the county seat, distant about twenty-five miles. The Nevada, California & Oregon Railroad runs the entire



READY FOR THE RODEO ON LAKE SHORE CATTLE CO.'S RANCH, DAVIS CREEK.

length of Goose Lake Valley, having stations at Davis Creek, Willow Ranch and New Pine Creek.

Goose Lake is an ideal place for boating, swimming, fishing, and duck shooting, and with its wealth of beautiful scenery rivaling that of Lake Tahoe, will some day become a summer resort second to none in the State.

FANDANGO VALLEY.

High up among the mountains of Modoc lies this little valley. In many respects it does not differ from a myriad of other little valleys. But it differs in that it has a history and an important lumber industry. As the history came before the lumber business, we may touch upon that first.

Early in the 50's a little band of immigrants, men, women, and children, with faces turned towards the West, beheld the wonderful panorama which is opened to view from the eastern ridge. At their feet, green and inviting, lay our little valley, with its wooded slopes and flower-strewn floor. Beyond, the eye caught enchanting glimpses of blue lake and purple mountain. Into this unknown and perilous land descended the brave little band, and there camped. That night, a spirit of revelry reigned, and a dance was held in celebration of dangers passed. But a greater danger was near. The sentries, looking on at the merriment, gradually forgot their duty. The last dance, which happened to be a Spanish fandango, was destined never to be finished. A band of Indians, which had followed the party for several days, unknown to them, surrounded the encampment. Closer and closer they crept, until with a wild yell, they rushed upon the unsuspecting merry-makers. The struggle was short, sharp and decisive. Two, and only two, escaped with their lives.

But all was not yet over. News of the bloody massacre was carried to the commander of the troops stationed at Fort Bidwell. This post was the only safeguard of the settlers scattered through the country. A detachment of General Crook's cavalry was sent to overtake the murderers. They were found encamped on a little knoll at the foot of the mountain. The cavalry were divided into two troops, of which one was placed in ambush at one side of the encampment. The second troop rode down the valley as though unaware of the proximity of the Indians, made a detour, and attacked from the opposite side. Taken between two fires the red men were unable to successfully resist the attack, and were cut down.

So perished the hardy immigrants, and so also their slayers, in the romantically named "Fandango Valley."

A number of years passed. During this period the Indians were subdued, the settlers came in increasing numbers, the rancher-farmers thrived. With the growth of the population, prevailing prosperity demanded better houses, and for houses, lumber was necessary. In the then isolated condition of this part of the State, lumber was scarce and costly, the demand was large, and the output almost nil. Into the Fandango came a man more farseeing than the others, a man who appreciated the possibilities of the great pine forests which clothe the southern and eastern slopes of the valley. Through this man a mill was erected in the far end of the valley. The lumber industry of the valley had begun. But it remained for other hands to carry it on, to improve it, to make it what it is to-day, and will be in the future. The mill was small, its machinery crude and of a primitive sort, and the enterprise was abandoned. Of the old mill nothing remains to-day but a picturesque heap of ruins.

A new mill, better in every way than its predecessor, was erected in a more favorable location. Improved machinery and methods resulted in the production of a better grade of lumber.

So matters stood, when the growing importance of the county drew the attention of the outside world. New capital and new enterprise came in. Again the mill changed hands. This time was installed the most modern machinery. A planing mill was established, with a capacity for turning out quantities of fine flooring, mouldings and surfaced lumber of every type. The production of the sawmill was increased to an average of thirty thousand feet of lumber daily. As an added improvement was provided a shingle mill producing over thirty-five thousand shingles every day.

The onward movement of the industry warranted the opening of a well-stocked yard in the Surprise Valley. With the coming of the railroad, a large yard site was secured at the Willow Creek station, which should be the supply station for a proposed line of yards from Alturas to Lakeview, thus completing the means to render available to the entire county a stock of home-produced California white pine lumber of the highest possible grade.

R. G. M.



LOGGING CAMP ON SUGAR HILL, GOOSE LAKE VALLEY. Photo by Matthews.



BUILDING LOGGING CHUTE, FANDANGO VALLEY.

Photo by Matthews.



LOGGING SCENE, FANDANGO VALLEY.

Photo by Matthews.

Surprise Valley as Seen by John S. McGroarty, Editor West Coast Magazine.

We struck out from Reno, bright and early Sunday morning, on the Oregon, Nevada and California Railway, said to be owned by the Moran Bros. of New York. It is a narrow gauge road and passes through what would appear to be a quite uninhabited country. Yet it is a busy road, and it made money the first year it was under operation and is constantly increasing in revenues. All day we sped through a sage brush country, with now and then a vista of green ranch lands, reaching Alturas, the capital of Modoc County, a little before sunset, having accomplished 184 miles of distance, mostly up hill.

The next morning we took to automobiles, and it was a wonder to think that automobiles were to be found in that distant and sparsely populated place. But I have learned now to know that the auto is as common as horses in the cattle sections of the west. It is only poor department clerks and slaving salaried men in cities, who can do no more than to ride in trolley cars and display pink socks. The California rancher invariably rides in a motor car that carries him up to snow peaks and down to desert valleys below the level of the sea, or anywhere else that he cares to go.

I have had many a day of glory in God's open country, under blue skies, but never one for which I am more grateful than that day I spent with good companions on the ride from Alturas to the Valley of Surprise. In all the world there can be no journey more splendid.

Although the time was only April, and we were very far north, the air was as warm and balmy as Lowell's "day in June" in his loved New England. The great plain on which Alturas lies was redolent with blossoming sage. And yet, there before us covered with snow, were the peaks and passes of the Warner mountains, over and through which we were to make our way.

As we sped across the vast plain and up into the foothills we had for company the ever present vision of mighty Mount Shasta—lying far to our left—as it rose in a perfect and towering pyramid above the Sierras.

Dressed in its everlasting robe of purest and whitest snow, the splendid old monarch of the hills shone in the morning sunshine, entrancing as it alone can be. Then, in another hour we were enclosed within the green passes of the Warners, the tumbling waters of its crystal streams rushing onward with us, the gleam of immemorial snows looking down upon us.

Sometimes, I think the most beautiful feature of California is not the Sunset Sea with its white shores of glory, nor the vales that lie in the purple dusk, beamed with flowers—but the mountains. And there are no more beautiful mountains in all the golden land than the Warners. They are vibrant with singing waters, majestic with crowning cliffs and stately with forests of pine. Here and there you find in them little green, sun-swept glens where some pioneer who loves peace and the silence has reared a roof tree for his happy, healthy children. There in the pines you will hear the deep diapason of the winds and the song of every wild bird in flight.

For two hours or more we wound through these mountain passes up hill and down, until at length a shout of admiration and wonder sprang from every lip. We had reached the mountain summit and there below us lay a valley serene and sunny and lovely as a poet's dream. It was the Valley of Surprise.

The Valley has no other name. It is called "Surprise Valley" on the map and by the people who dwell within it. It is the official title, and nothing could be more appropriate. It must have been a surprise, indeed, to the first trail blazers who crossed the Warners and looked down from the peaks of snow into the deep sun-swept vale with the waters of its white lake gleaming like great jewels in its emerald heart. And it was no less a surprise to us than it was to the first pioneers. I have no doubt it is always a surprise to whoever looks upon it, no matter how often—even to the dwellers in the vale who come and go, perhaps many times a year.

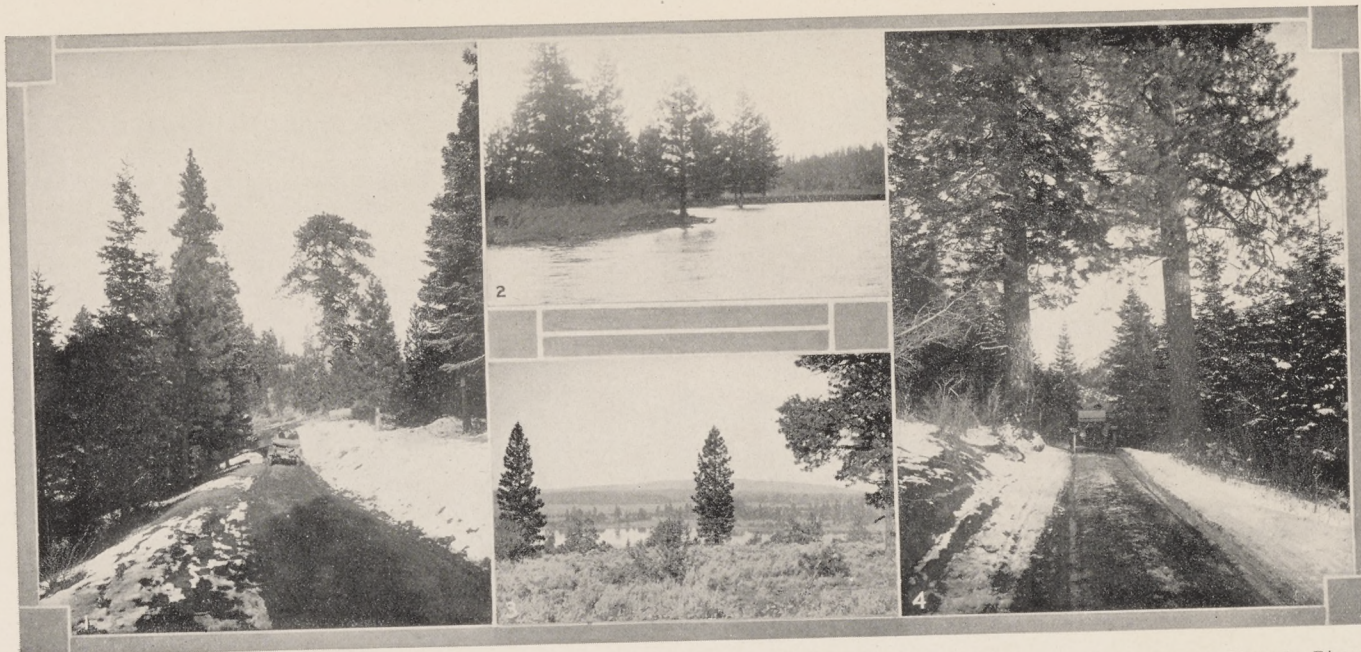
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We began to see that we had come none too soon



MILK COWS ON HOTCHKISS RANCH, LAKE CITY.

Photo by Matthews.



1 AND 4. CEDAR PASS. 2 AND 3. RESERVOIRS NEAR ALTURAS.

Photo by Riesen.

to the Valley of Surprise. Those rich acres that had lain unclaimed until now were already being sought by eager people other than ourselves. The railroad that was now within a few miles would soon send its panting engine into Fort Bidwell and Cedarville and all the other Valley towns. It is an easy matter to swing the road from Alturas down into the Valley. Besides this, the Western Pacific Railway is a comparatively short distance on the other side, and there are also strong grounds for the belief that the Hill lines are headed from Oregon through Modoc County.

While it is doubtless true that the Valley of Surprise will be far more prosperous and also more thickly populated when the railroads touch it, I will contend that it can never be a happier place than it is now, or than it has been for more than forty years. But it is easy to see that with the coming of the railroad that there will not be one acre of all those vast lands untilled.

Where there are now a hundred wheat fields in the Valley of Surprise, there will be thousands of wheat fields. And there will also be thousands of apple orchards, for the

Valley is ideal for apple growing. The Hood River country, or any other section of the United States, can grow no finer apples than those that are grown in the Valley of Surprise. The climate is just right, having that sufficient touch of winter in it which is necessary to the growing of good apples and the finest wheat. The soil is composed of lava deposits which makes perhaps the richest in existence.

* * * * *

Lingering still another day, we turned our faces homeward. As again we reach the summit of the Warners, the cavalcade of autos halted and we looked back for a last vision of that vale of beauty where we had so many happy hours. To our ears rose the low of kine in the lush and peaceful meadows and the voices of the children at play. No fairer spot had we ever seen, nor had it ever been our lot to meet more kindly or more hospitable people. Yet we felt that it was not good-bye but au revoir. There were the acres that now were ours and which would soon bloom with orchards and gleam with the green alfalfa when the magic touch of living waters came upon them.



WOOL FROM SURPRISE VALLEY, READY FOR SHIPMENT.

Photo by Matthews.

We were the possessors of the soil and that, if nothing more, would draw us back.

CEDARVILLE.

There was a small sized settlement around Cedarville even in the year 1865 and among the settlers of this year were Henry Schlke, Charles Rice, Lorenz Fritz, John Stephens, William Dodson, Z. Street and C. T. Sharp.

The first structure of any kind at what is now the town of Cedarville was built in 1865 by Henry Talbert and was used by James Townsend as a store until he was killed by the Indians in Long Valley, east of Cedarville, in the latter part of 1865. In 1867 it became the property of Cressler & Bonner, who still own it.

After the civil war and the establishment of a store in Cedarville and an Indian fort at Bidwell in the upper end of the valley, the community began to fill up with a permanent lot of settlers, many of them bringing their families. The first road over the Warner Range of mountains

its founders have gone and it will ever be a delight to those who know it and a lasting monument to those who helped build it.

Being at the center of the valley and the natural gateway to the Alturas country westward and the Nevada country eastward, Cedarville was bound to grow and she has done so. She has had good schools, churches and public buildings of all kinds, including a park, from the very early days. She has held for years the name of being one of the prettiest places in the mountains and on coming in from the Nevada country she certainly seems a paradise. She has many good buildings of brick and stone and is in good condition in every way.

In the year 1874 the first church was built and since that time with few exceptions there has been regular service every Sunday in one and sometimes two churches in the town.

The town is well blessed with lodges. The Masonic is the oldest, having commenced August 30th, 1873, with James J. Dorris for Master. William T. Cressler, still living at Cedarville, was the first secretary and is now the



CEDARVILLE.

Photo by Matthews.

ran then as now from Lake City across to the Lindale district below Davis Creek. The Board of Supervisors of the county (then Siskiyou) hesitated about putting a second road over the mountain, so in 1869 the settlers of the Cedarville community built a road over the Cedarville summit and it was maintained as such for several years or until the Supervisors at Yreka accepted it as a public road and began spending road funds on it. It has gradually become the main road over the summit. In the winter of 1871 and 1872 what was known as Deep Creek school district was organized and the first school in Cedarville began under the auspices of William Minto, the first teacher. Later, when the name of the town was changed from Deep Creek to Cedarville, that of the school district was changed also.

Few, indeed, of the early pioneers of Cedarville still remain and the time is close at hand when none will remain. The town with its beauty will, however, remain long after

treasurer of the lodge. The present officers have the lodge well in hand, the Master being W. D. Coates and the secretary, T. H. Johnstone. A lodge of the Eastern Star, named Bonner after John Bonner, was organized in 1905 and has a goodly membership. The Odd Fellows and their sister lodge, the Rebekahs, are very strong at Cedarville, having, like the Masons, their own hall and being in good shape. The Knights of Pythias also have recently organized in Cedarville with a strong membership.

The population now reaches 600, and among the most important business houses are the general merchandise stores of D. S. Denehy & Co., and T. H. Johnstone; W. D. Coates Sanitarium, one of the best equipped north of Sacramento; the garage belonging to Lamb & Sons and one belonging to E. K. Boston; the L. N. Pabst drug-store; the Golden Eagle Hotel; Surprise Valley Bank; Surprise Valley Roller Mill; blacksmith shop of J. T. Wylie, and the photo studio of Geo. L. Matthews.



EAGLEVILLE, VIEWED FROM THE L. N. PABST RANCH.

Photo by Matthews.

EAGLEVILLE.

The town of Eagleville is situated in the southern end of Surprise Valley and has a population of about 100. It has two general merchandise stores, two hotels, a blacksmith shop and livery stable, and many beautiful homes. Like the other towns in Surprise Valley, Eagleville is the center of a rich and prosperous farming country and with the rapid development and growth of Surprise Valley a rosy future is assured.

LAKE CITY.

Lake City, situated about nine miles north of Cedarville, at an elevation of 4,740 feet, is the center of a prosperous farming and fruit raising section. The population is about 250 and besides the hotel, general merchandise store, blacksmith shop, livery stable and butcher shop, are a flour mill and a creamery. The latter, owned by M. Hotchkiss & Sons, is famed throughout the county for the delicious butter and cheese manufactured there.



LAKE CITY COUNTRY.

Photo by Matthews.



STREET SCENE IN FORT BIDWELL.

*Photo by Riesen.***FORT BIDWELL.**

At the upper end of Surprise Valley, just at the foot of the mountains, lies the town of Fort Bidwell. Here in the early days was established a government post from which the town derived its name. Bidwell is beautifully situated, and the main street lined on both sides with big shade trees is one of its chief attractions. A pure, sparkling mountain stream runs through the center of the town, adding its quota to the picturesque view. Fort Bidwell

is surrounded by a rich fertile farming county. It contains a population of about 400 and has three general merchandise stores, a bank, two hotels, flour mill, two livery stables, blacksmith shop, weekly newspaper, drug store and butcher shop. They also have a good school-house and church. The recent development of the Hoag mining district of which Bidwell is the chief supply depot has stimulated the growth and business of the town and it is highly probable that in the next two years Bidwell will have doubled its present population.



MINERAL SPRINGS AND RANCH OF F. MARTIN, NEAR BIDWELL.

Photo by Riesen.

Climate of Modoc County

Lakes, Rivers and Reservoirs

THE climate of Modoc County is bracing and invigorating, affording health and comfort at all seasons of the year. The temperature is modified by the dry rarified mountain air, and remembering its location and altitude it will be understood why as high a temperature as 90 and 100 degrees in the shade would not become oppressive. In the summer, no matter how hot it gets during the

day, it will be found necessary to sleep with plenty of covering for you will generally need it before morning. In the winter the thermometer will occasionally drop below zero, but this lasts for but a few days at a time and causes very little if any discomfort. It is the cold, bracing atmosphere that makes you feel like getting up and hustling.

The largest and most important stream in Modoc County is the Pit River, which, starting from a point in the Warner range near the southern end of Goose Lake, flows in a southwesterly direction through Alturas, Hot Spring Valley, Stone Cold Valley and Big Valley, and on down to the Sacramento River.

Of the smaller streams Modoc County has an abundance. They burst out from nearly every canyon and as they wind their way down through the wooded mountains and fertile valleys form many beautiful bits of scenery. Among the most picturesque are Rush Creek and Ash Creek in the Adin mountains, and Soldier Creek in Surprise Valley. One of the most important of these smaller streams is Pine Creek, on which is situated the power plant of the Alturas Electric Light and Power Company, which company furnishes light and power to Alturas and vicinity and also to Surprise Valley. Pine Creek is also a beautiful place for camping and fishing.

There are two large lakes in Modoc County—Goose Lake and Tule Lake. The former covers an area of about 350 square miles and Tule Lake a much larger area. There are numerous smaller lakes found in every portion of the county. A number of them are used for irrigating purposes, and nearly all of them abound in trout.

There are a great number of reservoirs now in Modoc County being used for irrigating purposes. It is estimated that there are fully a thousand good reservoir sites that could be developed with very little expense. Among some of the reservoirs that have proved to be profitable investments are those of Wm. T. Cressler, in Surprise Valley, the reservoir on the SX ranch in Hot Spring Valley, the reservoir of J. T. Spaulding in Little Hot Spring Valley, and the one of A. J. Paulson in Goose Lake Valley.



SOLDIER CREEK, NEAR LAKE CITY.

Photo by Matthews.

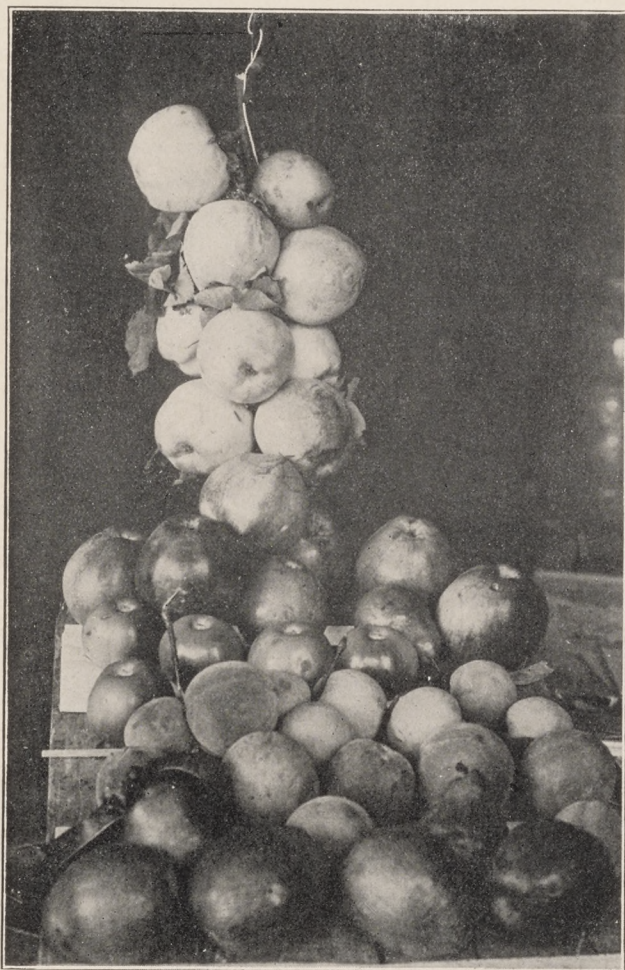


FREIGHT TEAM.

Photo by Matthews.

The Advantages of Modoc County

IT is to the advantages of Modoc County as an agricultural land that we especially wish to draw attention, for the country is a typical farmers' country. For any country agriculture is the first necessary industry and none can meet success or prosper without it. Agriculture is essentially an industry which never exhausts its possibilities or materials. A farmers' country is every man's country and every other industry will share his prosperity.



APPLES FROM THE FAMOUS JOHN BRILES ORCHARD.

We need small farmers, vegetable gardeners, creameries, cheese factories and in fact everything in all lines of diversified farming, specialization or factories. We need laborers, we need all classes of industrious settlers in every branch of industry.

The diversified farmer could be independent and find a ready local market for all he could raise, as butter, eggs, vegetables, fruit, poultry, etc.

Living expense here is some higher than in more greatly developed counties, but that is offset by the greater price derived from all the farmer or producer has to sell and the wage of the worker.

The homeseeker who comes in without capital must be willing to work and quick to see the possibilities and take advantage of them. Development has passed the pioneer stage, but settlers coming in now will have every advantage that made success for the pioneer and without

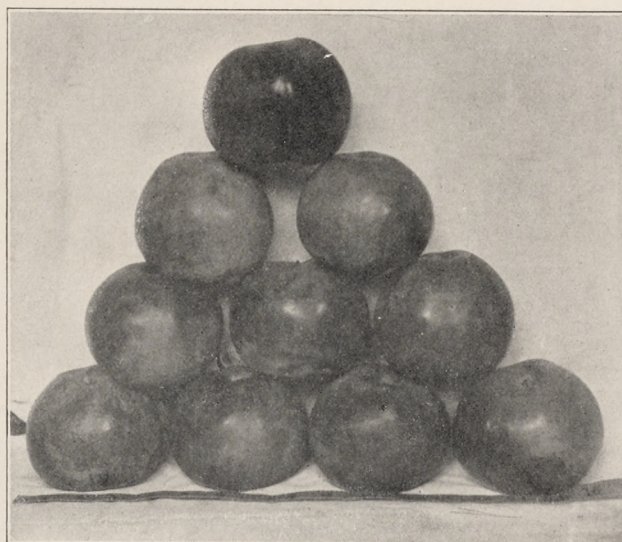
the trials and hardships they suffered when coming into a new and untried country.

It is possible now to buy an irrigated ranch with all improvements, water rights, fences, ditches, acres of timothy meadows, growing alfalfa, orchards and gardens, as low as \$25.00 to \$40.00 per acre. There are thousands of acres with ample water at prices that make it possible for the farmer to pay for his land with the first crop. Naturally the lands near and around the settlements on the railroad are some higher in price than more isolated spots, although even at the highest price much less than anywhere in the west with like quality of soil. There are a number of companies who are colonizing large tracts of land and selling it with a perpetual water right at \$125.00 per acre. Others are selling water rights only to put on government lands which can be secured from the government for \$1.25 per acre, payable 25 cents down per acre and the balance, \$1.00 per acre, at the end of four years. It is necessary to do certain work and development as required by the government. There are also thousands of acres of government land open to homestead entry in 160-acre tracts or fractions thereof. Land on the National Forest Reserve suitable for agriculture is also open for homestead entry.



PEACH TREE IN SURPRISE.

Photo by Matthews.



APPLES FROM SURPRISE.

Photo by Matthews.



A FINE GARDEN ON THE PATTERSON RANCH, SURPRISE VALLEY.

Photo by Matthews.



HARVESTING SCENE IN SURPRISE VALLEY.

Photo by Matthews.



APPLE TREE ON SPICER RANCH, HOT SPRING VALLEY.

This is a proven alfalfa, dairying, apple, berry, vegetable and stock raising country.

It has jestingly been said that farming in Modoc County has been done on horseback. Literally speaking, this means that farming really has been carried on only as a side issue, excepting in a few cases. By close attention to the individual write-ups of the farms found in another portion of this magazine, taken from every section of the county, it will be seen that the productions per acre are recorded of what many farmers have done. For the county as a whole, the average yield of barley per acre will be found somewhere between 40 and 100 bushels; wheat, between 25 and 80; oats, between 40 and 100.

Among the vegetables that are commonly grown in every section of the county are onions, potatoes, beets, carrots, cabbage, turnips, celery, peas, beans, sugar corn, pop corn, cucumbers, pumpkins, squash, tomatoes, parsnips lettuce, asparagus, radishes. The berries are blackberries, strawberries, raspberries, dewberries, loganberries, gooseberries and currants.

Gooseberries and currants are found quite commonly growing wild. The wild plum and choke cherries growing wild are found throughout the county and are depended on by the housewife for part of her winter fruit supply.

Melons and cantaloupes are important productions, and among the fruits apples, pears, peaches, plums, quinces, cherries and apricots grow in profusion.

Orchards of apples thirty-five and forty years old have



BEE KEEPING IN LOOKOUT.

year after year borne heavily, with practically no attention.

A yield of 700 to 1000 pounds to a tree is not uncommon, the fruit absolutely healthy and free from worms and the quality and flavor the very best.

Not for a few seasons has the productiveness of the county been tried, but the people are here to-day, the old pioneer and his descendants, and the orchards and lands they have planted and cultivated are proofs of years.

The bee industry has been carried on as a side issue. One hive of bees will produce seventy-five pounds of honey per season. A few stands would mean a good profit, besides supplying the home, and there is always a local market for good honey.

The raising of hogs should be a paying business as the alfalfa industry grows.

The sugar-beet industry is one day going to be a very important one in Modoc County. There are thousands of acres of rich bottom land that is exactly suitable for the raising of this vegetable in its perfection.

Sheep have always been profitable and both their wool and mutton command the highest market prices.

Dairying has been almost totally neglected as far as even supplying the local markets. It has been necessary for some time to ship in butter and eggs from Reno and Sacramento.

The average daily wage for manual or unskilled labor is from \$1.50 to \$3.00 per day and few to fill the jobs. Carpenters and skilled labor get union wages.



FRUIT CANNED BY MRS. LARGENT.

Photo by Matthews.



PEA VINES IN SURPRISE VALLEY.

Photo by Matthews.



THE GLOSTER THRESHER, EAGLEVILLE.



TEN ACRES OF WATERMELONS ON HUGHES RANCH, SURPRISE VALLEY. *Photo by Matthews.*



FRUIT TREES ON EDWARDS TRACT.



ONIONS GROWING ON EDWARDS TRACT.

EXPERIMENTAL GARDEN.

In the spring of 1911, R. L. Edwards, a real estate man of Alturas, started a garden on a piece of sage-brush land just beyond the corporate limits of Alturas. He was laughed at by his friends, who told him he was crazy to try and grow anything out there. Mr. Edwards, however, in spite of the skeptics, proceeded to grub out the sage-brush and plant his garden truck. How he succeeded is best told by the following statistics as given by Mr. Edwards: On 10 acres of raw ground first broken in April, 1911, Mr. Edwards raised:

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| ¼ acre of onions (large) netted..... | \$ 75.00 |
| ¼ acre of onion sets netted..... | 150.00 |
| 3 acres potatoes (215 sacks) netted @ \$2. | 430.00 |
| ¼ acre cantaloupes netted from those sold | 15.00 |
| ½ acre turnips netted | 40.00 |
| Planted 12,000 assorted fruit trees, all of which are doing splendidly, estimating their value @ 10c | 1,200.00 |

Total\$1,910.00

In addition to the above vegetables and small fruits, Mr. Edwards raised tomatoes, watermelons, summer squash, cabbage, string beans, green peas, carrots, corn and has nearly an acre of fine strawberry plants.

The garden raised by Mr. Edwards only tends to show what can be done in the way of gardening in Modoc County. The piece of land selected by him was not considered worth much for that purpose, but for those who are willing to devote the time and energy to their work there are thousands of acres of land in Modoc County now lying idle which is as good and much of it better than that piece of Mr. Edwards'.



ONIONS AND CANTALOUPEs RAISED ON EDWARDS TRACT.

MODOC FOR THE SPORTSMAN.

For the sportsman the County of Modoc offers inducements second to none. The hunters will find here nearly every kind of game, from the lowly jack-rabbit to the lordly elk and deer. The mountains and valleys abound with quail, grouse, sagehens and doves, while on the rivers and lakes are found thousands of sprig, teal and mallard ducks. It is a very poor shot indeed that cannot bag the limit in a day's duck shooting along the South Fork swamp and among the lakes of Surprise, Goose Lake and Big Valleys. Geese are also plentiful.

Among the animals of the fur kingdom are found the mountain lion, bear, badger, mink, weasel, otter, rabbit, skunk, coyote, squirrel, deer, coons, beaver, porcupine, cougar and mule deer. Up in the Warner range the mule deer are frequently killed weighing 250 pounds and once in a while, but very seldom, a grizzly bear is encountered in the same range. The first grizzly seen in Modoc for many years was killed last year.

The fishing is good in every section of the county, and the Nimrods can follow their favorite pastime in any manner they choose. For those who like the open water for fishing there are lakes of all sizes filled with salmon trout, English brook trout, rainbow trout and mountain trout. For those who would rather follow the winding stream for their day's sport the county has a plentiful supply of creeks, some of them high up in the mountains and thickly covered with brush along the banks, and also the streams along the lower levels flowing for miles through rich bottom lands without a sign of brush to snag the unwary tackle. In the deep mountain lakes the fish vary in length from five to twenty-four inches and in the streams from five to fifteen inches. In the Pit River are found the black bass and pike, some of the former weighing from three and one-half to four pounds. Cat-fish are also found in Pit River.

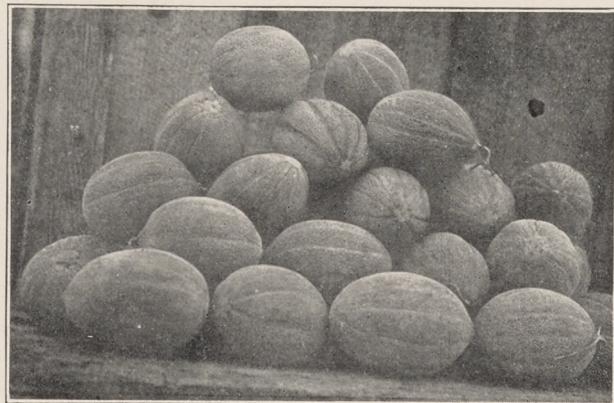
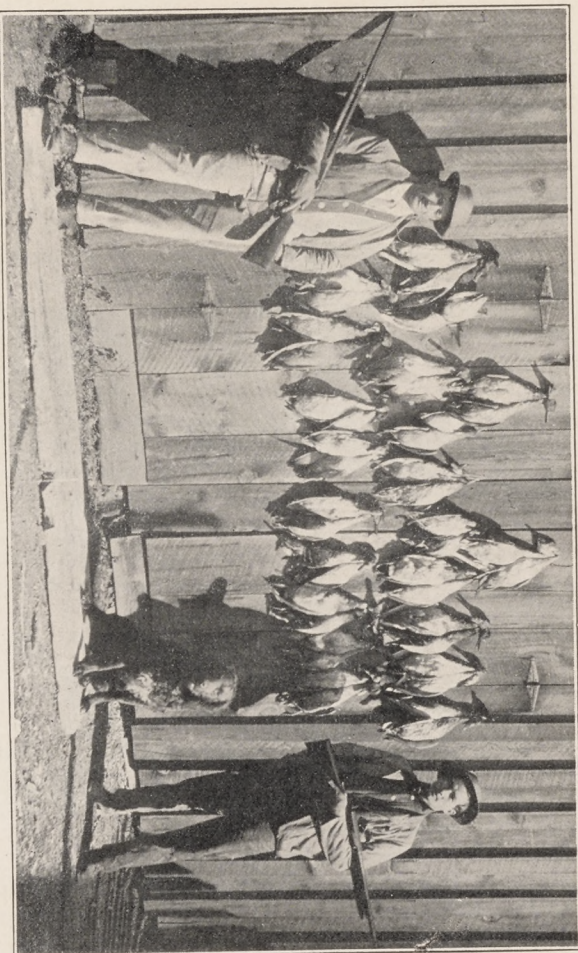


Photo by Riesen.



A DAY'S SHOOTING NEAR LIKELY.

Photo by Riessen.



ALL READY FOR THE BIG DEER HUNT.

Photo by Matthews.



A MORNING KILL NEAR ALTURAS.

Photo by Riessen.



A CHRISTMAS BAG AT CEDARVILLE.

Photo by Matthews.

The Alfalfa Seed Industry

THE alfalfa seed industry is now one of the most important industries of Surprise Valley and its growth has been very rapid. Prior to 1902 but little attention was paid to its production aside from raising sufficient for home consumption, but in the fall of 1902 it became evident that there would be considerable more seed produced in the valley than would be required for planting at home. Mr. T. H. Johnstone, realizing the possibilities and importance of this industry, got in touch with some of the seedmen of the Coast and induced them to make a trial of the seed. That season some 60,000 pounds of seed was shipped, but the appliances then available for cleaning were crude, and the seed that was shipped was foul. The price realized for the shipment was but $7\frac{1}{4}$ cents per pound, but that was much better than letting the seed go to waste, as it brought into the valley close to \$4,500 of outside money, and what was more encouraging was the fact that the dealers reported the seed to be of excellent quality provided it was properly cleaned.

Mr. Johnstone then set to work to obtain something that would clean the seed more satisfactorily, but being unable to learn of any improved method of re-cleaning it, he purchased the best fanning mill obtainable and got it in that fall. He still found it inadequate in cleaning the seed properly, and then trying during the winter of 1902 and 1903, in improving and experimenting he finally succeeded in getting a mill to clean the seed in very good shape, and in the fall of 1903 he shipped about 60,000 pounds of seed that netted the growers 10 cents per pound, which was increasing the net income from this source about 37%.

Still the results were not very satisfactory. The process of re-cleaning by hand was too slow and laborious, besides it was impossible to eliminate all of the objectionable foreign seed. To put the seed on a par with Utah seed, which was at that time considered the finest in the market, at considerable expense he procured a cleaner from Saginaw, Michigan, which he installed with steam power to operate it.

The result was that when the coast dealers saw the re-cleaned product they began to sit up and take notice, and while classifying the Modoc seed as being next best to Utah in quality, yet they came after it, and have been after it ever since. Now, instead of Utah seed being held up as a standard of quality, Surprise Valley seed is recognized as being the finest seed in America, and commands a price of from a half to one cent per pound higher than any other.

From 60,000 pounds produced in 1902, the crop of 1911 yielded over 300,000 pounds, and from the price of $7\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound in 1902, the prices obtained in 1910 and 1911 went to 15 cents, an increase of 500% in yield and 100% in the prices obtained.

The alfalfa raised for seed in Surprise Valley is raised almost entirely without irrigation. The annual profit realized from this industry is from \$30.00 to \$100.00 per acre net. While these statistics were taken in Surprise Valley, the only place in the county where the raising of alfalfa for seed has become an industry, the same conditions of soil and climate and possibilities prevail in other parts of Modoc County and the same grade of seed can be raised in Goose Lake, Pit River and Big Valleys.



ALFALFA RAISED FOR SEED IN SURPRISE VALLEY.

Photo by Matthews.

The Schools of Modoc County



No. 1. ADIN SCHOOL. No. 2. EAGLEVILLE SCHOOL. No. 3. WILLOW RANCH SCHOOL. No. 4. NEW GRAMMAR SCHOOL, ALTURAS. No. 5. SCHOOL BETWEEN WILLOW RANCH AND NEW PINE CREEK. No. 6. NEW PINE CREEK SCHOOL.

Though in a remote corner of this Golden State, yet the young people of Modoc are not lacking in opportunities for mental development and new school districts are always being formed. The new buildings are modern in architecture, well seated, well lighted, and well ventilated. For examples of such in our rural districts the State Line and the Forty Nine buildings are well worthy of mention. As a whole, Modoc County's school buildings are comfortable and well equipped.

Alturas will soon have completed the handsomest grammar school building in Northern California, at a cost of about \$25,000. It is a magnificent structure of stone and brick with an interior arrangement quite modern and approved, and the equipment and furnishing will be in keeping with the building. This school has an efficient corps of five teachers and it is almost a certainty that the sixth will be added at the beginning of the next term.

Cedarville has a substantial brick structure, the only criticism being that while it now accommodates four departments it will soon be too small for the growing demands of the district. Cedarville is an ideal school town and the people put a proper estimate on school essentials, both in their grammar and their high school.

The Bidwell grammar school has two teachers but with the present attendance they will next year be entitled to three.

Eagleville has an up-to-date school of two departments and each year finds them making added improvements.

Lake City also employs two teachers, and this year they are putting in over \$400 worth of improvements.

The Adin grammar school building is of brick. It is well furnished and well maintained and the patrons of this

school are justly proud of their school as well as of their building. They are paying the highest salary paid to any grammar school teacher in the county and they feel that it is an investment bearing excellent dividends.

There are thirty-three other grammar schools in the county, each employing one teacher.

Trustees of various districts are contemplating improvements and are inquiring for approved plans.

The services of teachers and other school officials is correspondingly good, and the salaries paid teachers, ranging from seventy to one hundred and twenty-five dollars a month, is indicative of the services we are expecting at their hands.

Last year the grammar school received \$39,243.60, of which \$30,000 was paid for teachers' salaries and \$660 for library books.

The estimated valuation of school property is \$139,843. This includes buildings, furniture, libraries and apparatus, but it is a very low estimate.

Twice a year the members of the board of education conduct examinations for pupils who have completed the grammar school work and the successful applicants are given diplomas of graduation, which admit them to high schools. Semi-annual examinations for teachers' certificates are given in May and in December.

Our schools are generally in an excellent condition. Among parents, teachers, school boards, and all others interested, there is such a spirit of co-operation, earnestness, and progress shown that gives assurance that the educational system of Modoc County will ever be kept up to a high standard.



UNION HIGH SCHOOL, CEDARVILLE.

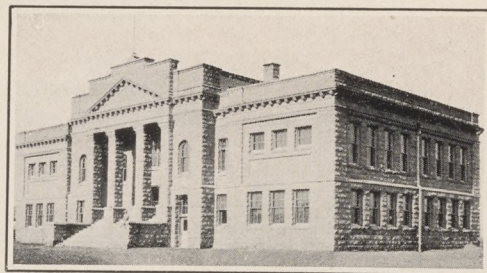
Photo by Matthews.

In this age of our civilization, the educational system of any community is not complete unless there is the secondary school to fill the gap between the primary schools and the university. There are two high schools in Modoc County—one, in the eastern part of the county, the Surprise Valley Union High School, and the other the Modoc County High School. Both schools were organized in the summer of 1903.

The Union High School is located at Cedarville and comprises ten districts. The building cost about \$10,500. Although a plain brick building, it is very well equipped. There are five teachers and Mr. Irving C. Raymond is principal. The trustees are Charles H. Lamb, president; Wm. T. Cressler, clerk; H. B. Stevens, Wm. T. Strief, and Frank Powers.

The County High School is located at Alturas and comprises the remaining districts—twenty-nine in number. The beautiful and commodious stone building, second to none in the northern part of the State, cost about \$45,000. It has a corps of five teachers, Mr. Anthony Rose being principal. The county board of education have the supervision of this school. The members are Paul D. Henderson, president; Mrs. Nettie B. Harris, secretary; Miss Nettie Leonard, W. E. Hill, and I. C. Raymond.

While the high schools give courses to prepare for col-

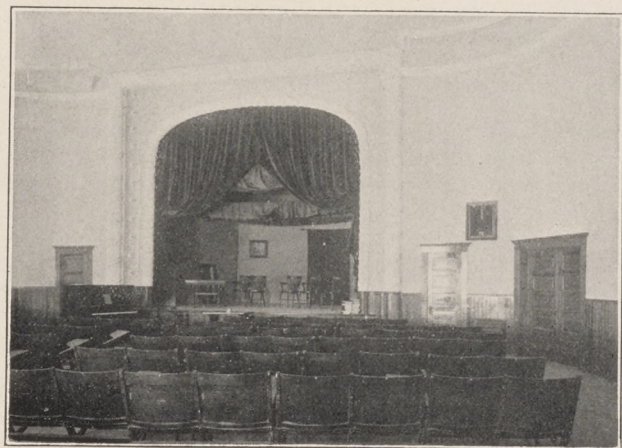


MODOC COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL.

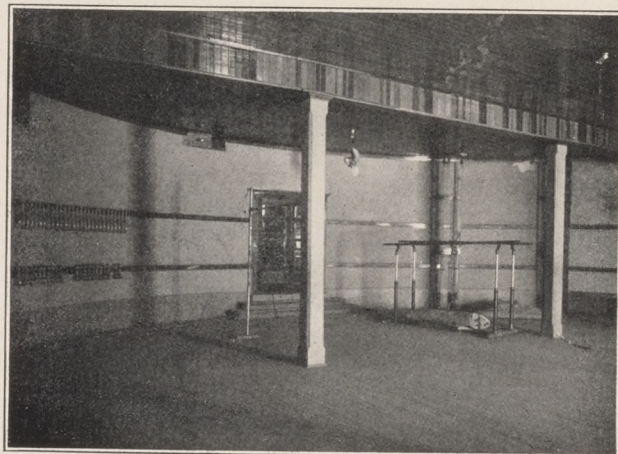
lege, their chief aim is the greatest good to the greatest number in the community that they serve. The schools are now giving courses of study that are as complete as those of the majority of high schools in the State, but the county board of education propose to revise the courses this year, giving more attention to practical education. Both schools already give full commercial courses and the County High in addition gives a teachers' course.

The schools are on the accredited list of the University of California. Graduates of either school are admitted without examination to the University of California, Leland Stanford, Jr. University, and the University of Nevada, or to any of the State Normal Schools, provided their work is recommended by the principals.

The high schools are centrally located so that it is convenient for pupils from all parts of the county to attend. The average enrollment for each school is about sixty. In proportion to the population, as compared to other counties, our people take more interest in the schools. Since the establishment of the high schools, five classes have graduated—24 boys and 69 girls—making a total of 93. Of these, three boys and seventeen girls have passed county examinations and have teachers' certificates; five girls have graduated from the State normals; four girls are attending the normals, and five girls and six boys are attending universities. This is a very good showing for our schools.



ASSEMBLY ROOM, COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL.

Photo by Riesen.

GYMNASIUM, COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL.

Photo by Riesen.



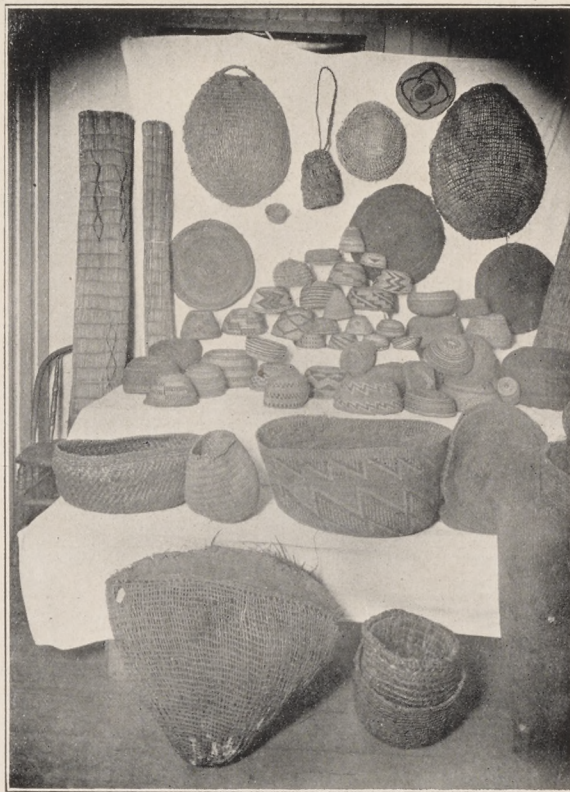
COMMISSARY BUILDING, INDIAN SCHOOL.
Photo by Riesen.

INDIAN SCHOOL AT FORT BIDWELL.

In 1898, the buildings and grounds of the abandoned military post at Fort Bidwell, California, were turned over by the War Department to the Interior Department for use as an Indian school for the Indian children of north-eastern California, northwestern Nevada and southern Oregon. A day school was established in the fall of that year, with an attendance of about twenty pupils, but the attendance increasing, it was later made a boarding school, and has for several years been operated as such, the attendance varying from sixty to ninety pupils.

The plant consists of some twenty large buildings, including a carpenter shop, blacksmith shop, laundry, etc., where the pupils are taught these branches of industry, in addition to instruction and training received in the school kitchen, sewing room, dairy, on the farm, and in caring for stock, all of which work the pupils are required to do, under the direction of competent instructors, in addition to the class-room work. The younger pupils spend all of each day in class-room work, but the older pupils divide the day between industrial work and the class-rooms. The course of study adopted is intended to follow as closely as possible the state course of study. The academic work is carried to and including the fifth grade. Many of the pupils are of ages ranging from six to nine or ten years, and for these a well-equipped kindergarten department is maintained.

The future of the Fort Bidwell School as a boarding school is uncertain, but there is no doubt that a government school for Indians will be needed at Fort Bidwell for several years, and if the boarding school is discontinued, a day school will undoubtedly be established in its stead. A day school is already in operation at Likely, under the jurisdiction of the superintendent at Fort Bidwell, and the establishment of similar institutions at Alturas and Lookout in the near future is contemplated. All of these schools are needed to supply school facilities for the Indian children under the Fort Bidwell jurisdiction, of whom there are more than two hundred in Modoc County alone.



INDIAN BASKETS FROM CEDARVILLE.

BANKS OF MODOC COUNTY.

There is nothing that speaks so strongly for the prosperity of a community as the wealth and financial strength of the banks. Modoc County may justly feel proud of her record in this respect, having at the present time four banks. Two are located in Alturas, one in Cedarville and one in Fort Bidwell. These banks are all of them on a firm financial footing and do a conservative, general banking business.

Of the banks in Alturas, one, the Bank of Modoc County, is owned and controlled by E. Lauer & Sons, and is situated in their general merchandise store building. B. Lauer is the cashier. The First National Bank, of which B. F. Lynip is cashier, will shortly be located in their new and commodious fire-proof building which is being fitted up with up-to-date equipment of every kind, including a fire and burglar proof safe deposit vault where patrons of the bank can secure for a nominal rent a box for storing their valuable papers. They do a general banking business and one can secure from them every kind of a draft, letter of credit, traveler's check or in fact anything of that nature that could be obtained from a bank in the larger cities.

The Surprise Valley Bank is housed in a brick and stone building and the big bulk of their business is with the prosperous ranchers of Surprise Valley. F. E. Bush is the cashier.

In Fort Bidwell is located the Bank of Fort Bidwell of which R. R. Baker is the cashier. Although comparatively young, this bank has had a wonderful growth and is steadily increasing in business and prestige. They are now building a handsome bank building of stone which when completed will contain every modern convenience for up-to-date banking methods.

Official Life of Modoc County

By E. C. Bonner, Former District Attorney.

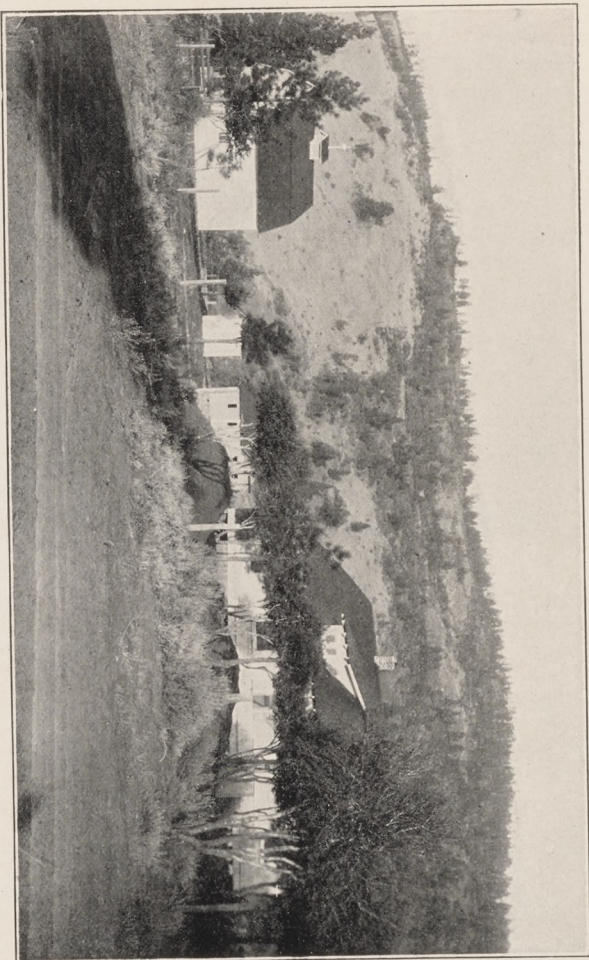
MODOC COUNTY was created out of Siskiyou County by an act of the Legislature approved by the Governor, February 17, 1874, a more particular account of which appears elsewhere written by the author of the County Creation act, W. T. Cressler.

The first Board of County Commissioners was appointed by the Governor and consisted of William B. Swearingen, William McCormick, father of W. H. McCormick now residing at Eagleville, Columbus Dorris of Alturas, George Townsend of near Canby, and William A. McCluer of Adin. Townsend, Dorris and McCluer met at what is now Alturas, but was then known as Dorris Bridge, on the 10th day of March, 1874, to organize the county. They divided it into seven judicial townships, three supervisor districts and twelve election precincts. An election was ordered for May 5, 1874, to elect the first county officers and choose a county seat as the enabling act creating the county had located the county seat at Dorris Bridge only until such time as it should be otherwise located by vote of the people. At the election thus held the first officers of the new county were chosen, they being as follows: Joseph Mark, sheriff; N. Fitzgerald, county clerk, auditor and recorder; G. F. Harris, district attorney; N. B. Rine, county treasurer; L. W. Harris (husband of the present matron of the county hospital), assessor; H. G. Hill, school superintendent; J. W. Howard, county surveyor; J. J. Lane, coroner and public administrator; and J. M. Hornback of Eagleville, supervisor of the first district; D. P. Barnes, supervisor of the second district, and E. Lauer, then of Adin, supervisor of the third district. Also, Constables W. S. Stevens, E. C. Grider, D. O. Bissell, John Flournoy, Peter Kelley and John Morris. Justices of the peace were selected as follows: J. C. Bowmer, J. M. Sanders, Martin Henderson, J. N. Stone, and Preston Hayes. Of the above officers all the county officers save N. B. Rine are now deceased, as also all the constables and justices save W. S. Stevens, John Flournoy and Martin Henderson. There was no choice on county seat, no one place having a majority of the votes cast, and the county seat has therefore remained at Alturas until the present and will undoubtedly remain there for all time. The vote resulted as follows: Lake City, 237; Parker Creek, 128; Adin, 117; Centerville, 82; Dorris Bridge (Alturas), 65; Joseph Creek, 57; Cedarville, 2; Franklin Creek, 2; Hot Spring, 1. Lake City, which had in the old Siskiyou County days been the seat of such court sessions as were held, had the largest but not a majority vote. The question of Modoc settling its share of the Siskiyou county debt was considered by a Board of Commissioners on which G. F. Harris and J. J. Dorris represented the County of Modoc, and the matter was amicably adjusted. At the first session of the Board of Supervisors, J. M. Hornback of Eagleville was elected the first chairman of the board. Until the year 1884 the county was divided into three supervisor districts and since that it has been divided into five. Originally district one consisted of Surprise Valley, district two of Goose Lake and the Alturas country, and district three the western part of the county. Since the addition of two more districts, one has consisted of the upper half of Surprise Valley, district two of the southern half, district three of Goose Lake Valley, district four of the Alturas country and district five of the western part of the county.

During the old regime district one had in succession for supervisors, J. M. Hornback, H. O. Jopp, John H. Bonner, and again H. O. Jopp. All are now deceased save H. O. Jopp, who is still living and at Fort Bidwell, this county. District two had in succession D. P. Barnes, James N. Stone (who died in office), D. C. Berry, J. D. Flournoy and M. Henderson. Of these, Barnes and Stone are dead, while Flournoy is living at Likely, this county, and Berry and Henderson at Davis Creek, this county. District three had during this time in succession E. Lauer (then residing at Adin, afterwards supervisor from the fourth or Alturas district), Thomas McCluer and T. B. Reese. Of these, McCluer is living at Adin and Reese in Napa County. Since the organization of five districts instead of three, district one has been represented in succession by John Bucher, I. N. Jacobs, John Dodson, David Baty, John Bucher and the present supervisor, R. O. Ward. All are living and in the county save John Bucher, who died in September, 1910. District two during the same time has had in succession James Wylie, H. L. Merryfield, Jesse Parman, James Wylie, John Fritz, George C. Turner and Jesse Parman, present incumbent, all of whom are living and in the second district. District three during the present organization has had W. A. Whittier, J. C. Morrison, Morris Dick, H. Henderson (formerly under the old régime a supervisor from district two), J. H. Dawson, J. D. Mulkey, J. H. Dawson and Wm. Burgers. Whittier, Dick and Dawson are dead. Morrison is at Pacific Grove and Henderson and Mulkey still reside in the second district. District four has had E. Lauer (formerly under the old regime a supervisor from the third district), T. W. Sigourney, L. G. Clark, E. Lauer, W. F. Estes, J. D. Flournoy (formerly under the old régime supervisor from the same district but then numbered two), and the incumbent, J. B. Estes. Of these, Lauer and Clark are dead, Sigourney is living at Oakland, and D. F. Estes, J. D. Flournoy and J. B. Estes still reside in the district. District five has had H. S. Brown, Ira S. Cannon, C. C. Auble, D. B. Kane, J. G. Conklin, E. A. Niles and Ira S. Cannon. H. S. Brown and C. C. Auble are dead and the rest still reside in the district.

Under the old county court system the first judge was an appointed one, Judge Holloman, and in the circuit of which we were a part we had Judge J. D. Goodwin and Judge C. G. Clough, both of Plumas, and now deceased. Under the new or Superior Court system we had for Superior Judges, G. F. Harris by election until January, 1891; C. L. Claflin from then to January, 1897; J. W. Harrington from then to January, 1903; John E. Raker from January, 1903, to December, 1910; and Clarence A. Raker, by appointment, from December, 1910, to the present time. Judge Claflin defeated John E. Raker for judge in 1892, Judge Harrington won out in 1896, Raker beat N. A. Cornish in 1902, and the writer in 1908. He is now in Congress, having slipped through by 134 majority in the Democratic landslide of 1910, in a district nearly ten thousand Republican. Harris and Harrington are dead, Claflin is living at Bakersfield and the two Rakers at Alturas.

For sheriffs the county has had Joseph Mark, from the inception to January, 1878; O. D. Weller, from January, 1878, to January, 1883; C. C. Rachford, from January, 1883,



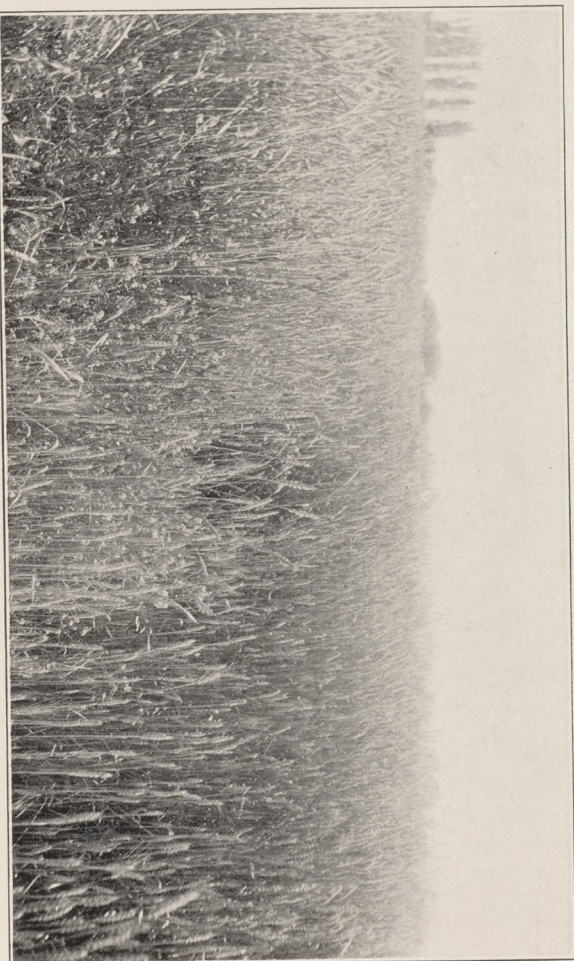
IDEAL MOUNTAIN HOME, GOOSE LAKE VALLEY. *Photo by Riessen.*



RESIDENCE OF HON. PETER PETERSON, FORT BIDWELL. *Photo by Riessen.*



RESIDENCE OF A. LAUER, ALTURAS. *Photo by Riessen.*



WHEAT HIGHER THAN A MAN, ON L. FOSKET RANCH, SURPRISE VALLEY. *Photo by Matthews.*

to January, 1887; John Bucher, from January, 1887, to January, 1891; C. B. Parker, from January, 1891, to January, 1895; J. W. Cummings, from January, 1895, to January, 1899; E. D. Hager, from January, 1899, to his death in April, 1901; B. B. Street, from April, 1901, to January, 1906; F. W. Caldwell, from January, 1906, to his death on January 31, 1910; and A. E. Smith, from the death of F. W. Caldwell to the present time. Of the above named sheriffs, Mark, Weller, Rachford, Bucher, Hager and Caldwell are dead, while Parker resides near Lakeview, Oregon, and Cummings resides at Alturas, and Street in Stockton. The office of sheriff until recent years included that of tax collector, but the two offices are now separated. Since their separation the following in succession have been tax collectors, namely: J. R. Cook, T. S. Kemble, J. Todd Bonner and R. L. Sloss, the present incumbent. Cook is dead, and Bonner, Kemble and Sloss still reside in Modoc County.

As district attorneys the county has had the following: G. F. Harris, from inception of the county to January, 1876; H. L. Thomas, from January, 1876, to July, 1876; J. C. Bowmer, from July, 1876, to January, 1877; Eugene S. B. Turner, from January, 1877, to January, 1878; F. W. Ewing, from January, 1878, to January, 1883; C. L. Claflin, from January, 1883, to January, 1885; F. W. Ewing, again from January, 1885, to January, 1887; H. J. H. Stewart, from January, 1887, to January, 1891; E. E. Copeland, from January, 1891, to January, 1895; John E. Raker (later Judge and now Congressman), from January, 1895, to January, 1899; the writer hereof, from January, 1899, to January, 1907; F. M. Jamison, from January, 1907, to January, 1911; and C. S. Baldwin, present incumbent, from January, 1911, to the present time. Of these Harris, Thomas, Bowmer, Turner and Copeland are dead; Ewing resides at Ventura, Claflin at Bakersfield, and Stewart, Bonner and Jamison still reside at Alturas.

As county surveyors the county has had James W. Howard, from inception to January, 1880; W. A. Salisbury, from January, 1880, to January, 1883; F. W. Chapin, from January, 1883, to January, 1887; W. A. Salisbury again, from January, 1887, to January, 1889; George O. McKay, from January, 1889, to January, 1891; L. W. Hughes, from January, 1891, to January, 1893; J. M. McCoy, from January, 1893, to January, 1895; L. W. Hughes again, from January, 1895, to his death in 1897; A. A. Smith, from the death of L. W. Hughes to January, 1903; F. A. Smith, son of A. A. Smith, from January, 1903, to January, 1907; A. M. Green, from January, 1907, to January, 1911; and H. S. Hawkins, present incumbent, from January, 1911, to the present date. Of these Howard, Chapin, McKay, Hughes, A. A. Smith and J. M. McCoy are dead, while Salisbury, F. A. Smith and A. M. Green are still residents of the county.

As assessors the county has had L. W. Harris, from its inception to January, 1880; James W. Howard, from January, 1880, to January, 1882; A. J. Myers, from January, 1882, to January, 1891; A. A. Smith, from January, 1891, to January, 1895; W. A. Salisbury, from January, 1895, to January, 1899; H. O. Jopp, from January, 1899, to January, 1903; and D. E. Mulkey, present incumbent, from January, 1903, to the present time. Of these Harris, Howard, Myers and A. A. Smith are dead, while Salisbury and Jopp are still living and in Modoc County.

As school superintendents the county has had H. G. Hill, from its inception to January, 1876; W. F. Estes, from January, 1876, to January, 1878; E. P. Grubbs, from

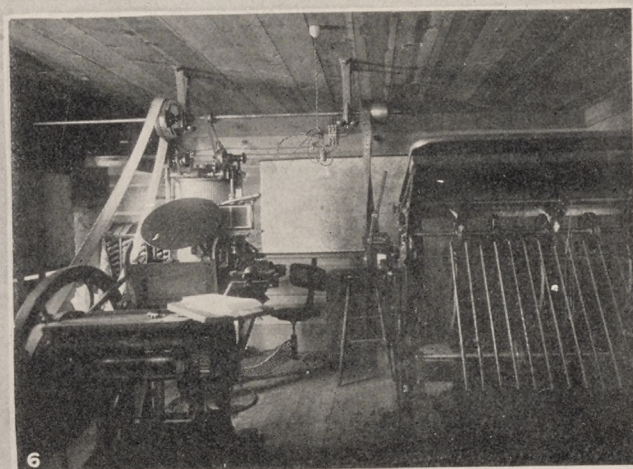
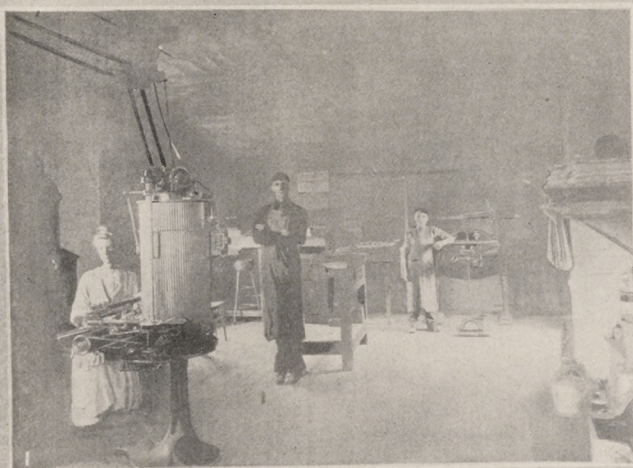
January, 1878, to January, 1883; Alice Welch, from January, 1883, to January, 1891; J. A. Vergon, from January, 1891, to January, 1895; Miss Anna L. Williams, from January, 1895, to January, 1903; Miss Nellie Forrest, from January, 1903, to January, 1907; Miss Eva Spargur, from January, 1907, to January, 1911; and Mrs. Nettie B. Harris, present incumbent, from January, 1911, to the present writing. Of these Hill and Grubbs are dead, Estes lives near Alturas as also Miss Anna L. Williams, Miss Nellie Forrest (now Mrs. Edward Ivory Junior), and Miss Eva Spargur, Alice Welch and J. A. Vergon reside in the lower part of California.

As county treasurers there have been N. B. Rine, from the inception of the county to January, 1883; H. G. Payne, from January, 1883, to January, 1887; John Madden, from January, 1887, until he defaulted and went to Peru in August, 1897; M. Pinkney, from the defalcation of John Madden, in August, 1897, to January, 1907; and S. W. Pepperdine, from January, 1907, to the present time. All of these persons are still living, with the possible exception of Madden and he was living when last heard of. Rine resides in the lower part of the State, as does Pinkney.

As county clerks we have had N. Fitzgerald, from the inception of the county to January, 1878; George H. Knight from January, 1880; George W. Welch, from January, 1880, to his death in February, 1882; F. S. Chapman, from death of Welch to January, 1887; T. B. Reese, from January, 1887, to January, 1889; J. W. Poor, from January, 1889, until his death in 1890; C. E. Hill, from the death of Poor in 1890 to January, 1891; T. B. Reese, from January, 1891, to January, 1895; M. Hughes, from January, 1895, to January, 1899; and L. S. Smith, present incumbent, from January, 1899, to the present date. Of these Fitzgerald, Welch, Chapman, Poor and Hill are dead, while Knight resides at Adin, this county, Reese in Napa County and Hughes at Alturas. Up until January, 1891, the offices of auditor and recorder were consolidated with the county clerk, but since that time they have been separated and the offices of auditor and recorder have been filled successively by I. W. Gibbons, from January, 1891, to January, 1899; by E. G. Scammon, from January, 1899, until his resignation in the fall of 1905; and T. H. Ballard, present incumbent, from the resignation of Scammon, in the fall of 1905, to the present time. Of these Gibbons resides in Alturas and Scammon in Minneapolis.

The offices of coroner and public administrator have been consolidated since the beginning of the county. The office has been filled as follows: By J. J. Lane, from the inception of the county to January, 1876; by W. J. Combes, from January, 1876, to January, 1881; by George O. McKay, from January, 1881, to January, 1887; by S. C. Gibson, from January, 1887, to January, 1889; by A. H. Ferguson, from January, 1889, to January, 1891; by J. M. Allenwood, from January, 1891, to January, 1893; by A. A. Olinger, from January, 1893, to January, 1895; by J. M. Allenwood again, from January, 1895, to January, 1899; by J. M. Pierce, from January, 1899, to January, 1903; by J. T. Meredith, from January, 1903, to January, 1907; and by W. W. Shartel, from January, 1907, to January, 1911; and by the present incumbent, Thomas Frawley, from January, 1911, to the present time. Of these Lane, Combes, McKay, Ferguson, Allenwood, Olinger and Pierce are dead, while Gibson resides in Reno, Nevada, Meredith at Cedarville and Shartel is at present in Los Angeles.

Modoc was until 1891 a part of the assembly and senatorial districts running south and making up groups of



No. 1. NUGGET OFFICE, BIDWELL.
No. 3. RECORD OFFICE, CEDARVILLE.
No. 5. THE PLAINDEALER OFFICE, ALTURAS.

No. 2. ADIN ARGUS OFFICE.
No. 4. REPUBLICAN OFFICE, ALTURAS.
No. 6. NEW ERA OFFICE, ALTURAS.

mountain counties. During this time we always had a home man from one of the mountain counties at the State capitol and particularly we had in the assembly W. T. Cressler, J. R. Cook, W. D. Morris, G. F. Harris and Peter Peterson and in the senate, W. H. Patterson of Cedarville. In the year 1891 the Legislature, with the idea of uniting the two democratic counties of northern California, Modoc and Shasta, into one district and throwing them away from the other and more Republican districts, joined them. The two counties join together for three miles at the extreme southwestern corner of Modoc and northeastern corner of Shasta. Politically they are united and geographically so for three miles. In all other respects the union is a bad one, as the Modoc mountains know nothing and care less concerning the smelter and other purely local questions of Shasta, and Shasta knows nothing and cares less of Modoc. In 1900, Lassen was thrown into the pot. Lassen is in all respects joined with Modoc but a return to the old districting is much desired and will undoubtedly come at the present session of the Legislature. During the twenty years of union with Shasta, Modoc has never yet sent a man to the Legislature except where the voters of Shasta got divided among themselves. When they get together it has been all off with the mountain districts. In twenty years we have had one Senator from the mountains and that one Senator, James T. Laird of Alturas, defeated John F. Raker, also of Alturas. Neither one could have been nominated without the existence of a factional fight down west. In that time we have had three Assemblymen, only, from the mountains—James T. Laird, A. J. Jackson and N. A. Cornish.

The county has sent one man only to the national legislature, the present Congressman John E. Raker.

The rapid development of eastern California with its many permanent industries will do much to restore its balance in a political sense and if the mountain counties can once be grouped together for representation at the capitol it will mean a great deal for their future, not only politically but in many other ways.

Since the above was written the Legislature, while continuing the present grouping of Modoc, Lassen, Shasta and Siskiyou in a senatorial district, has grouped Modoc, Lassen, Plumas and Sierra into an assembly district, thus restoring that district to the lines of the old one. This meets the approval of the counties concerned and will result in much better feeling all around, particularly between the mountain counties and the Shasta country. To the credit of the Shasta people, be it said, their generous conduct brought about the change and for the same they are entitled to everlasting credit at our hands.

R. L. SLOSS,

Better known as the "Long-Nosed Tax Collector," was born at Janesville, California, in August, 1869. Has been in the newspaper business during the greater part of his life, having conducted the "Alturas New Era" for a number of years, "The Elma Chronicle" at Elma, Chehalis County, Wash., and the "Bidwell Gold Nugget," in Bidwell, this county.

Was first elected to the office of Tax Collector of Modoc County in 1906, by a large majority. Was re-elected in 1910, defeating his party opponent in the primaries and having no opponent at the general election.

During the first term he inaugurated a system in that office that had a great deal to do with the clearing up of

records. The system was a statement of a duplicate receipt that made clear to the taxpayer the description of his land and property, and exactly what was being paid upon. This did much to clearing up titles and straightening out records and brought many words of praise to the Tax Collector. Mr. Sloss is not only a Tax Collector, but a taxpayer as well. He owns his own home and also a ten-acre ranch close to town.

THOMAS FRAWLEY.

Thomas Frawley, Coroner and Public Administrator of Modoc County, was born in the town of Danby, in the State of Vermont, on the fifth day of July, 1858. He came to Reno, in the State of Nevada, in 1872, and from there came into Surprise Valley in 1878. He was married in 1886 to Lizzie Brooks of Jess Valley, a daughter of old John Brooks, the pioneer of the valley. He has four children, being one grown son and three daughters. Mr. Frawley has resided at Alturas for many years now and been engaged constantly in the meat business. In 1910 he was the nominee both of the Republican and Democratic parties for the office he now holds. He is making a capable, honest and efficient officer and giving general satisfaction.

L. S. SMITH.

L. S. Smith, County Clerk, was raised in Modoc County and was first elected to the office he now holds in 1898. That "Bob" has made good is evidenced by the fact that he has been re-elected four times and that at the last election in 1910 he had no opponent. In spite of the vast amount of work piled on his shoulders, you will always be greeted with a smile and a pleasant word when you go to his office.

S. W. PEPPERDINE.

S. W. Pepperdine, County Treasurer, was first elected to office in 1906, and was re-elected in 1910. Silas is well and favorably known from one end of the county to the other and has always proved a capable, honest and painstaking officer. At the present time the office is being conducted by his deputy, Walter Gibbins, Mr. Pepperdine having been obliged to take a vacation on account of poor health.

COL. WILLIAM THOMPSON.

Col. William Thompson, Probation Officer for Modoc County, is perhaps best known as the editor of the "Plaindealer," which paper he has edited for nearly sixteen years. He has made an exceptionally good officer in this trying work, and Modoc County can boast of having as efficient an organization as can be found in the State. Colonel Thompson is ably seconded in his work by Rev. Isaac Clark Crook, who is the Deputy Probation Officer, in Alturas, and by a corps of other deputies in different sections of the county.

THE SUPERVISORS.

The affairs of the county in general are in the hands of the following Supervisors:

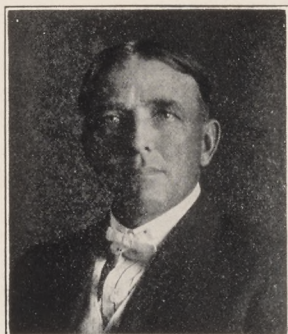
First District—R. O. Ward, whose residence is in Lake City.

Second District—Jesse Parman, who lives at Eagleville.

Third District—William Burgun (recently appointed to fill the unexpired term of J. H. Dawson, deceased), who resides in New Pine Creek.

Fourth District—J. B. Estes, Chairman of the Board, residence Alturas.

Fifth District—Ira S. Cannon, residence Adin.

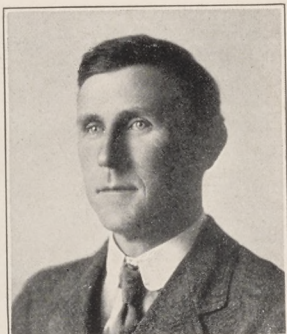


C. A. Raker.

Clarence Adolph Raker, Judge of the Superior Court, was born in the State of Illinois, October 22, 1866, and came to California in 1874, and to Alturas in this county in 1887; was admitted to the Supreme Court of the State of California in 1890, since which time he has practiced his profession in the States of California, Oregon, and Washington, up to his appointment as Judge, on December 20, 1910.

Judge Raker represents all of the good qualities of an able and just arbiter of men's differences; entirely fair, conservative and conscientious, and peculiarly possessing those qualifications which so eminently fit him for his present position, by which all the attorneys who practice before him say, they are able at all times to present to the very best advantage the subject in hand.

C. S. Baldwin, District Attorney, was elected in 1910. He is a native of Wisconsin and came to Modoc County in June, 1905, immediately after being admitted to practice by the Appellate Court. He is a property owner and taxpayer and deeply interested in the development and well-fare of Modoc County.



C. S. Baldwin.

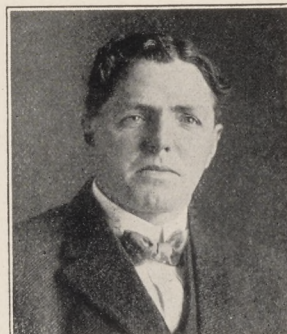


A. E. Smith.

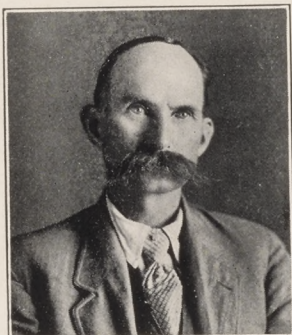
A. E. Smith, Sheriff of Modoc County, was born in Iowa, and came to Modoc in 1885. He was appointed Deputy under Sheriff Caldwell, and at Caldwell's death was appointed to fill the unexpired term. He was elected to the office of Sheriff in 1910. Elzie was the man who was directly responsible for the death and capture of Shoshone Mike and his band of renegade Indians, who killed four men in Little High Rock Canyon, Nevada. He has made an exceptionally fearless and capable officer, and is well thought of throughout the county.

Dr. John Stile, County Physician and Health Officer, is a graduate of the Cooper Medical College of San Francisco. He had the general hospital practice in that city, where for two years he was in Mt. Zion Hospital as resident physician and surgeon, and for two years was visiting physician for the Emanuel Sisterhood Clinic. He has practiced his profession for twelve years.

Dr. Stile has been in Modoc County for about eight years, having come here in 1904. He is at present a member of the Lunacy Commission.



Dr. John Stile.



D. E. Mulkey.

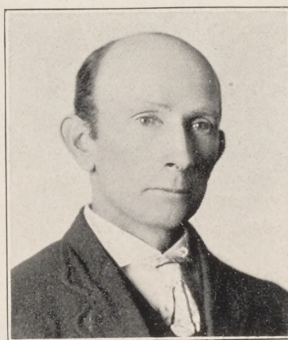
D. E. Mulkey, County Assessor, was born in Missouri and came to Modoc County in the spring of 1875. He was first elected to his present office in 1902. He has been re-elected twice, both times with large majorities. Mr. Mulkey is one of Modoc's Boosters. He owns considerable property and is a capable and efficient officer.

Harry S. Hawkins, County Surveyor, was born in Cedarville in 1884. He received his early education in the public school at Cedarville. After graduating in 1899 he attended high school at Napa for a year and from there went to Oakland, where he took up a course of civil and electrical engineering. He was elected to his present office in 1910 by a large majority.

In addition to his official position he is Superintendent of the Surprise Valley Electric Light & Power Co., and a member of the firm of Modoc Electric Contracting Co. of Alturas and Cedarville.



H. S. Hawkins.



T. H. Ballard.

T. H. Ballard, County Recorder and Auditor, was born in Illinois, and came to Modoc County in 1890. He rode on the range and engaged in various occupations. In 1898 he enlisted in Company I, 14th Infantry, U. S. A., and went to Manila, where he fought through the Spanish-American War. He was honorably discharged on August 15, 1899. He was appointed to the position in 1905 for an unexpired term, was elected in 1906 and re-elected in 1910. T. H. has made a good, capable officer and has the good will of every visitor to his office.

Mrs. Nettie B. Harris, the present Superintendent of Schools, has been a successful school teacher in Modoc County for a number of years. She was elected to her present office in 1910 by a large majority, and has made one of the best Superintendents that this county ever had. Mrs. Harris has been tireless in her work and has accomplished much during her term of office.



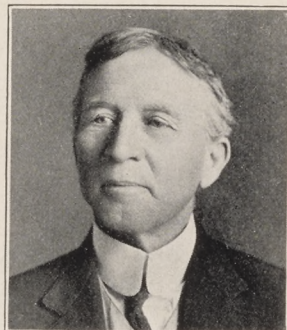
Mrs. Nettie B. Harris.



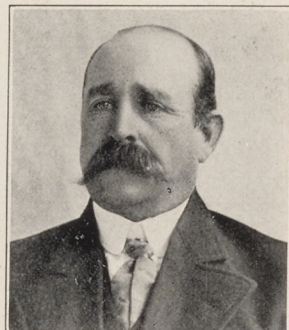
F. L. Roberts.



Dr. Leithead.



Hon. N. A. Cornish.



J. D. Mulkey.

Mr. F. L. Roberts was born in Sacramento, but came to Surprise Valley in 1873, when but four years old. At the age of nine he started out for himself working on the ranches. When fourteen years old he learned the barber trade, which he followed for twelve years. He next went into the saloon business and is known as one of the very few who conducted the business properly.

He was married when twenty-one years old and has a family of two boys and two girls, the oldest being now twenty years of age. He has succeeded by tending strictly to business and now owns one of the finest homes in Cedarville, one of the principal business corners and an eighty-acre alfalfa ranch. He is a member of the Cedarville Chamber of Commerce and of the Good Roads Committee, and is a constant, enthusiastic Booster.

Dr. Chas. E. Leithead was born in Vermont thirty-seven years ago. When six years of age his family moved to Iowa, where he grew up in a sort of Tom Sawyer way, attending the public schools at Rolfe. He afterward studied medicine in the University of Iowa, from which institution he graduated on March 13, 1895. From 1895 to 1901 Dr. Leithead practiced his profession in both Iowa and South Dakota. In 1901 he located in San Francisco and continued his practice until the fire of 1906 turned things topsy turvy in that city. He then, attracted by the possibilities of Modoc County, left San Francisco and established himself at Fort Bidwell, arriving there on the thirteenth of April, 1909. Dr. Leithead is one of the firm believers in the future of Modoc County in general and Surprise Valley in particular and does not hesitate to say so.

FRED V. LYON.

Mr. Fred V. Lyon, Attorney and Real Estate Man, is one of the "Live Wires" of Surprise Valley. He is an ex-newspaper man and thoroughly understands the advantages of publicity. He is a great believer in progression and organization. He is one of the willing workers in the Cedarville Chamber of Commerce and will always be found on the side with the "go aheads." As a live, wide awake real estate man Mr. Lyon has few equals in Modoc County, and in his office you will find samples of nearly everything raised in Surprise Valley or in Modoc County.

If you are interested in Modoc County, drop him a line and he will furnish you any information you may require.

In addition to his real estate business Mr. Lyon is also an attorney of more than ordinary ability and is rapidly establishing a lucrative practice in his chosen locality.

Hon. N. A. Cornish was born in Indiana in 1851. He came to Modoc County in 1902 and settled in Alturas. He

was elected to the Assembly from that district in 1906. He was admitted to practice law in 1871 and since that time has devoted his time to that profession. He is one of the leading Republicans of Modoc County and is Chairman of the Republican County Central Committee. He is a large property owner and taxpayer in the county and is interested in any movement toward the betterment of the county in general and Alturas in particular. Mr. Cornish is recognized as one of the leading attorneys of the county and can generally be found on one side or the other of all important legal cases.

Mr. Mulkey is one of the stand-bys of Modoc County. He came to Davis Creek in 1870 with his father from Benton County, Oregon. At that time he was but seven years of age and only three families were living in what is now known as Davis Creek. His father, Mr. Luke Mulkey, preempted the place where Mr. Mulkey now lives and farmed two hundred and fifty acres of what is known as the home ranch. Mr. Mulkey owns in all twelve hundred and sixty-five acres. He is a diversified farmer, stock man and orchardist. This year he netted over three tons of apples from four hundred bearing trees, an average yield. His potatoes netted him on one piece of land over two hundred dollars per acre. He raises everything in the vegetable line in time for ready market.



LUKE MULKEY, JR.,
Davis Creek, California.

Mr. Mulkey is a stock raiser, the son of a pioneer, Mr. Johnson Mulkey, who settled at Davis Creek in 1875, when Luke Mulkey was but four years of age. Mr. Mulkey raises the best hogs in the Goose Lake Valley and as well is an orchardist and grower of garden truck.

He thoroughly believes in Goose Lake Valley for all these things. Ask him about it.

DENNIS B. KANE,

**Enterprising Citizen and Popular Man of Canby,
Canby, California.**

Mr. Kane is a native of New York. He came to Modoc County in 1881 with his parents when but twelve years of age. When nineteen years of age he became a clerk in the store at Canby and remained in that position for six years, when he left the store to engage in ranching with his brother, J. M. Kane, with whom he has been in partnership ever since.

About 1894 they established a blacksmith, wheelwright and implement business at Canby, which they still carry on in connection with a four hundred and eighty-acre ranch.

The first combined harvester and traction engine ever brought to their section was purchased by these brothers and the first demonstration and development of sage brush lands in this section was by the Kane brothers, and their own ranch is one of the finest at Canby and was entirely reclaimed from sage brush.

Mr. Kane has for many years been prominent in public affairs and served for eight years as Supervisor of the Fifth District, from 1898 to 1906, and was Chairman of the Board during his last term of office.

He has always been identified with all public enterprises for the good of Modoc County as a whole, as well as for his own section.

That Mr. Kane is a reliable and enterprising citizen every one will conceive.



JOHN KELLY,

**Owner of the Famous Canby Hot Springs,
Canby, California.**

Mr. Kelly came to Modoc County from Napa County, Cal., in 1871, and pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres in Blacks Canyon, which he later sold and then purchased three hundred and twenty acres where he now lives. He owns one hundred and sixty acres additional.

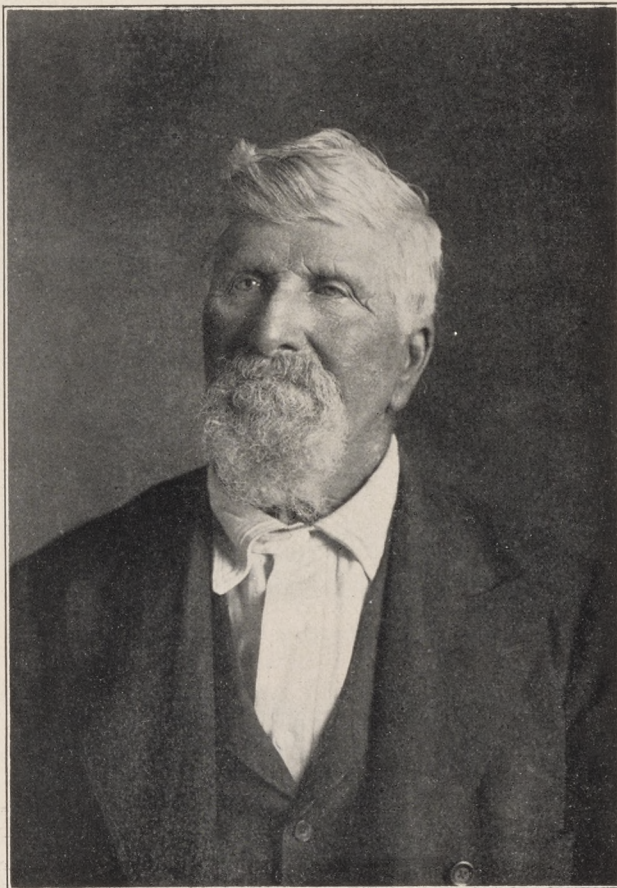
On this ranch is located the big hot springs from which the valley gets its name.

Mr. Kelly is an Irishman by birth and came to America with his parents who located in Hardin County, Kentucky, when Mr. Kelly was but one year old. Here he was reared and attended the public school until thirteen years of age, when he became affected with asthma and was sent to sea to regain his health. As a guest on a trading ship for three years he visited nearly every port in the known world. After his return from abroad he was again taken with asthma and was sent to Texas for his health, where

he worked at various occupations and remained until 1861, when he went to Los Angeles and was there married and went to live in Salinas County. In 1863 he removed to Napa County and purchased a farm.

All his life in Modoc County has been devoted to farming and stock raising. In 1881 he was elected to the office of Road Overseer and held that office for over two years.

Mr. Kelly is now seventy-eight years of age, vigorous and an exponent of the benefits of Modoc County climate and resources.



JAMES W. POPE,

**Pioneer Stock Man and Prominent Citizen,
Canby, California.**

Mr. Pope came to Modoc County in 1871, and took a squatter's right in Stone Coal Valley and built the first house there, a log cabin. The place is now owned by Ralph Shearer.

In the spring of 1872 Mr. Pope pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of the ranch on which he now lives and has lived since that date. Mr. Pope has always paid particular attention to the stock industry, and he has never been in politics.

His ranch is not for sale, but he will answer any inquiries regarding the resources of his section. He is one of the most esteemed men in Modoc County and his judgment may be relied upon.

FRED H. BRIGGS.

Mr. Fred H. Briggs, at present located in Fort Bidwell, has been an active worker in Northern California and Southern Oregon for the past twenty years. He has been

engaged in selling and locating timber, mineral, and agricultural lands and was the real moving spirit in the boom of the Lake County lands that were exploited by the Oregon Valley Land Co., although he was in no way connected with their transactions. He simply made the deal whereby 516,000 acres of land were turned over to the O. N. L. Co.

Since settling in Surprise Valley Mr. Briggs has been instrumental in bringing many substantial residents to that place and expects to bring many more. While Mr. Briggs is not now interested in the Modoc Irrigation Co., he was the first to realize the vast possibilities and to interest capital in the project. However, the panic stopped operations and before his people could recover and take the matter up others had secured options on the property and were successful in getting it financed. Any information in regard to Modoc County will be cheerfully given by Mr. Briggs, whose address is Fort Bidwell, Cal.

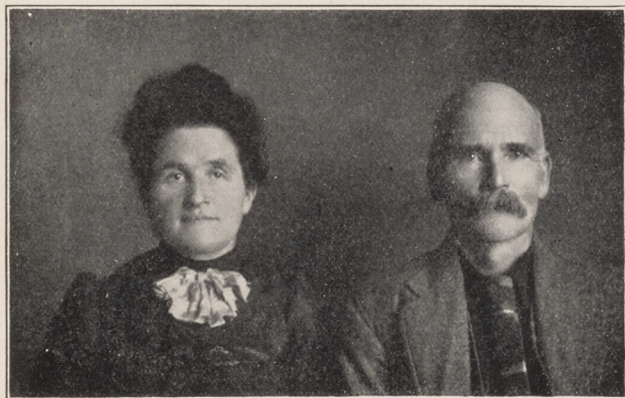


OFFICE AND BLACKSMITH SHOP OF J. T. WYLIE.
Photo by Matthews.

PROMINENT ATTORNEY AND SELF-MADE MAN. James T. Wylie.

Mr. Wylie came to Surprise Valley in the fall of 1878. In 1880 he built a brick blacksmith shop which he still owns and in which he now employs three men. He was elected Supervisor for the second district in 1882 and served for three terms in succession. In 1895 he was appointed Receiver in the U. S. Land Office at Susanville and resigned the position in 1897. He studied law while Supervisor and Receiver and was admitted to practice in the Supreme Courts of California and the Supreme Court of the United States in 1902, and in the Supreme Court of Nevada in 1909.

He is a property owner and taxpayer and takes an active part in the politics of the county.



Mr. R. H. Wells was born in Iowa, and came to Modoc County in 1875. The ranch where he now lives, on the Canyon Creek road, he bought in 1897. It consists of 360

acres, of which 250 is under cultivation. Mr. Wells is the owner of a water-right second to none in the county, having 250 inches of water from Canyon Creek and twenty inches from Hilton Spring. He has three and one-half acres of fine orchard, composed of apples, pears, peaches, plums, etc.

Mr. Wells is one of the pioneers who have helped to make Modoc County.



ALBERT FULMER SPICER.

The subject of this sketch came to Modoc County with his parents at the age of three years, in 1873. He attended the public schools of the county, subsequently graduating from a Sacramento business college. His father died when he was but five years of age, leaving his mother to direct his education and shape his character. How well that task was performed is evidenced by the fact that he is to-day one of the leading citizens of the county, both in a moral and financial aspect. Mr. Spicer is a great lover of fine stock, and his herd of Durham cattle, thoroughbred chickens, Indian Runner ducks, the only flock in the county; and, indeed, is satisfied with nothing but the best of everything going to make up the animal life of his farm. His farm of 1,200 acres, lying a few miles below Alturas on Pit River, is one of the best in the county, and is stocked with everything that goes to make up a modern farm establishment.



INDIAN RUNNER DUCKS ON SPICER RANCH.



BEEF CATTLE ON TURNER RANCH, CEDARVILLE. *Photo by Matthews.*

GEORGE C. TURNER,
Cedarville, California.

Mr. Turner came to Goose Lake Valley in 1880, engaged in the stock business, principally cattle at that time, and a few years later turned his attention to sheep, all of which ranged on the open lands in Oregon and California, and at that time winter feeding was not necessary, the grass being so abundant. In 1890 Mr. Turner removed to Surprise Valley, in Modoc County, shortly after purchased the home where he now lives and from time to time increased his land holdings until he has nearly two thousand acres in one body of as fine land as there is in the valley, nearly all of which is under cultivation, producing large crops of timothy and alfalfa hay. The average yield is something over two thousand tons, all of which is fed to cattle or sheep on the ranch. Alfalfa seed is now becoming one of the most profitable crops, and the 1911 crop of alfalfa seed, from forty acres, gave a net profit of \$60.00 per acre. Aside from his diversified farming, he has a nursery that has proven to be very profitable and has fully demonstrated that fruit culture will be one of the chief industries of the valley. On Mr. Turner's ranch are five fine artesian wells, one of which is used for irrigating the nursery. Dairying will also be a very profitable industry, and there is a creamery and cheese factory on Mr. Turner's property. Anyone desiring any further information is referred to Mr. Turner, who will cheerfully answer any and all questions in regard to lands in Surprise Valley.

MARTIN HENDERSON,
Noted Pioneer and Aged Citizen,
Davis Creek, California.

No man in Modoc County is better known or more celebrated than Mr. Henderson.

At the age of eighty-six Mr. Henderson is still vigorous in both mind and body and can be seen daily doing tasks that many men would shirk.

Mr. Henderson is a native of Missouri and was born about four miles east of where Kansas City now stands, April 20, 1826.

At the age of twenty he was married in Buchanan County, Missouri, to Miss Elizabeth J. Ellis, on February 20, 1846, and on February 20, 1912, they will celebrate their sixty-fifth wedding anniversary if alive, surrounded by their children and grand-children.

On April 20, 1853, Mr. and Mrs. Henderson and two small children joined an emigrant train conducted by his father, consisting of five families, in all about thirty people, men, women and children, and after a journey of about six months arrived in Benton County, Oregon, and located near Corvallis, where Mr. and Mrs. Henderson took up a homestead of three hundred and twenty acres, on which they lived until 1870, when they emigrated to Goose Lake Valley and settled on Davis Creek, July 7, 1870. (Mr. and Mrs. Henderson have never used water from a well for drinking purposes, but have drank the water of Davis Creek for over forty years.)



In 1874 Mr. Henderson took an active part in the formation of Modoc County and in 1880 was elected Supervisor. During his term of office the county was re-districted and five supervisorial districts were created instead of three.

Mr. Henderson served two terms as Supervisor. He was also the first Justice of Peace at Davis Creek, and for nearly all his life there has been a School Trustee and Clerk of the Board.

Mr. Henderson is largely instrumental in the organizing and building of the first church at Davis Creek, which was erected more than twenty-five years ago. He is a member of the Church of Christ. He has always voted the straight Democratic ticket and handled the politics of that party at Davis Creek.

To Mr. and Mrs. Henderson were born twelve children, all of whom lived to be grown.

Mr. Henderson saw his first railroad locomotive two years ago when eighty-four years of age and took his first ride at that time.



HON. T. W. H. SHANAHAN, OUR STATE SENATOR.

By E. C. Bonner, Mr. Shanahan's Opponent at the Senatorial Election of 1910.

There are few men who, politicians by nature, rise to the position of statesmen; but of those few, Senator Shanahan is easily one. Born in Colusa County, California, January 11, 1859, Senator Shanahan received his education in our public schools and has long been the foremost supporter of said schools in the State.

Being educated as a lawyer, he has for years been a leader at the bar in his adopted county, Shasta. Three times did he represent the assembly district of Shasta and Trinity at the capitol, and twice the assembly district of Shasta and Modoc. In 1910, despite the strenuous endeavors of the writer he won promotion to the Senate chamber.

It would be impossible in a short sketch to enumerate the many valuable acts of legislation accomplished by Mr. Shanahan during his long and honorable activity at the capitol. During his assembly career he defeated the

author of the act preventing Mongolian labor on public institutions; carried the Australian Ballot act; introduced the Purity of Elections Act; the resolution as to direct election of United States Senators; the law extending the redemption period on foreclosure of mortgages from six months to one year; of acts increasing State support of the public schools; and of the act looking to a more complete assessment of the railroads in the State, and for the recovery of back, unpaid taxes.

In addition to these many acts of legislation which rebound to his credit and mark him as a statesman of very high order in the State, after the termination of Mr. Shanahan's term as an assemblyman he occupied under appointment of former Governor James H. Budd the position of Code Commissioner. From which position many of the most useful code amendments now in operation proceeded.

In the fall of 1910 Mr. Shanahan received at the hands of his party in a general primary the nomination for State Senator in the district composed of his own county, Shasta, of Siskiyou, of Modoc, and of Lassen. In the general election in November he was successful in defeating the writer for the position of Senator by the substantial majority of 234. In the campaign Senator Shanahan acted with strict impartiality, and in every way and manner treated his opponent, the writer, in an honorable way. His promotion to the Senate came as a well earned advancement for his long and honorable services to the State and, all politics aside, was satisfactory to the entire district.

That his record as a Senator has met the entire approval of the district no one can deny. His long and successful fight to reduce the price of text books and to furnish them free of cost to the pupils of the public schools, would alone make for him an endearing record, but in many other ways he has justified the course of the people in electing him. With the ability given him by nature, coupled with his indefatigable ability and long experience in legislation, there is little the Senator cannot aspire to, and if indications at the present writing amount to anything it would seem the way were clear to anything he may desire. At any rate none of us in Modoc County begrudge his the position his service has given him, nor will begrudge him whatever eminence he may in the future attain.



TIMOTHY FIELD, MODOC LAND AND LIVESTOCK CO.

Photo by Riesen.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF PART OF IMIRIE-TORRESON RANCH. *Photo by Riesen.*

ROBERT IMIRIE,

A Pioneer and Half Owner of Famous Imirie & Torreson Ranch.

Robert Imirie was born in the State of New York in 1842 and spent his early life there. At the time of the Civil War Mr. Imirie joined one of the New York regiments and fought through the long gruelling contest. He is a member of the G. A. R.

In 1873 Mr. Imirie first came to Modoc County, but left and went to Napa County. In 1875 he returned to Modoc County, accompanied by Mr. Torreson, and they pre-empted 320 acres of land, from which has been built the Imirie-Torreson Ranch now comprising 2,000 acres of land.

The first large reservoir built in the county was built by Imirie & Torreson, on what is known as Toms Creek; and cost in the neighborhood of \$12,000.

Of the 2,000 acres in the ranch about 350 is used for grain, 80 for timothy, and about 600 is wild hay meadow. Around the house is planted about one and one-half acres of fruit trees and garden truck for use on the ranch.

The principal business of the two men at first was the raising of cattle and horses. About 800 head of cattle was their annual herd, which were turned out on the Government range. Their cattle, however, they sold out about five years ago, and since that time have devoted their time to general farming.

Mr. Imirie, who is getting along in years, sold out his interest last year to his partner, Mr. Torreson, for \$40,000,



RANCH HOUSE, IMIRIE-TORRESON RANCH.

Photo by Riesen.

and has retired from active work and settled down to enjoy the fruits of his years of hard work.

Mr. Torreson, the succeeding partner, was born in Sweden some sixty-three years ago. He came to this country in 1869 and settled in Minnesota for a time and in 1873 came to Napa, where he first met Mr. Imirie.

The Imirie & Torreson Ranch lies along the shores of Pit River and is about seventeen miles west from Alturas and about three miles east of Canby.

The bottom lands along the river are well adapted for dairying purposes, beets, carrots, and kindred vegetables doing especially well there.



RESERVOIR BUILT BY IMIRIE & TORRESON.

THE S. X. RANCH AND ITS OWNER,

Mr. Charles Howard Essex,
Canby, California.

Mr. Essex is one of the early pioneers and came to Modoc County in 1871 from Tehama County, near Red Bluff, in company with his father and two brothers and sister, and cousin, A. H. Kennedy, and located on what is now known as the S. X. Ranch, in Hot Spring Valley.

The S. X. Ranch comprises nineteen hundred and twenty acres, twelve hundred acres of which are in one body and all under irrigation from a fine reservoir—also a warm spring which irrigates over one hundred acres and furnishes water for all domestic purposes.

Over five hundred acres of land is a meadow from which is cut annually about eight hundred tons of hay. The gross income from crops alone is over \$7,000 annually.

The first alfalfa ever planted in Modoc County was planted here by Mr. Essex and is now over forty years of age and is still nearly as good a stand as ever. It has never been disced or cultivated. Mr. Essex cuts his alfalfa twice during the season and then pastures. His alfalfa yield is over five tons per acre. Timothy hay averages three tons to the acre. Oats produced in the fall of 1910 seventy-five bushels to the acre. Alfalfa planted in the spring of 1911 was cut twice the same year and yielded over one and one-half tons to the acre.

The ranch is well watered and fenced and is considered the best located and equipped ranch in Modoc County. It is valued with present ranch equipments at \$70,000, and it is offered for sale for \$50,000, as Mr. Essex desires to retire.

The first marriage license ever issued in Modoc County was to Mr. Essex and Miss Winnie J. Samuel, on May 1,



No. 2. BOATING ON IRRIGATION RESERVOIR.

No. 1. GOING FOR A JOY RIDE

No. 4. WARM SPRING SWIMMING POOL.

No. 3. RODEO ON THE S X RANCH.

No. 5. MAIN IRRIGATION DITCH.

And they raise annually live stock valued at \$5,000 or more. Fruits of all kinds, garden vegetables of every description, grain, alfalfa and timothy hay are grown. And beyond any question of a doubt some of the finest fruit lands to be found in Modoc County are on this ranch, which is located in an almost frostless section.

The development of this property is a story worth telling, for the greater portion of the ranch has been reclaimed from sage brush and represents forty-one years of arduous labor.

When Mr. Essex came to Modoc County he was but twenty-seven years of age and a bachelor. He and his relatives acquired the lands now combined in the S. X. Ranch, by homestead, pre-emption and desert claim, and this done through the turbulent times during the Modoc war.

1874, and to them have been born six children, four girls and two boys, all of whom are living.

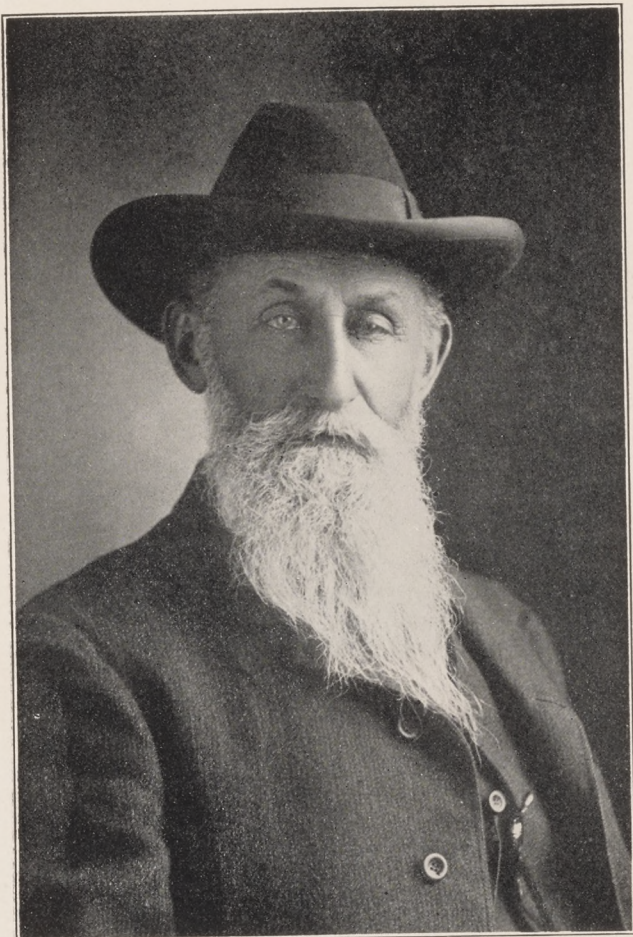
The first cattle brand and ear mark on record in Modoc County was by Mr. Essex.

Mr. Essex is a deacon of the Baptist Church of Alturas and an ardent Prohibitionist. He was one of the first men to call a meeting for the purpose of getting the proposition of "wet or dry" before the voters of Modoc County, and the county was voted dry.

Mr. Essex was one of the originators and prime movers in the organization of the Modoc Co-operative Association, which was formed in 1879.

He also deeded three acres of ground on the S. X. Ranch, on the main highway, for a Baptist Church and Cemetery.

The life work of Mr. Essex in Modoc County will be remembered for many years to come.



ROBERT FRANKLIN McCONNAUGHY,
The Sage of Fort Bidwell,
Fort Bidwell, Cal.

Mr. McConnaughy is one of the oldest living pioneers in Modoc County. He came to Surprise Valley in May, 1865, and squatted on 160 acres of government land. He was accompanied by his brother Marton, who also located on 160 acres of land. Later Mr. McConnaughy homesteaded 320 acres of government land and purchased one section of the finest land in Modoc County at the head of the Surprise Lake, which was then called Lake Morilla, so named for the first white woman in the valley.

At the time that Mr. McConnaughy and his brother located in Surprise Valley life and property were at stake morning, noon and night, and a settler's mind was never at ease.

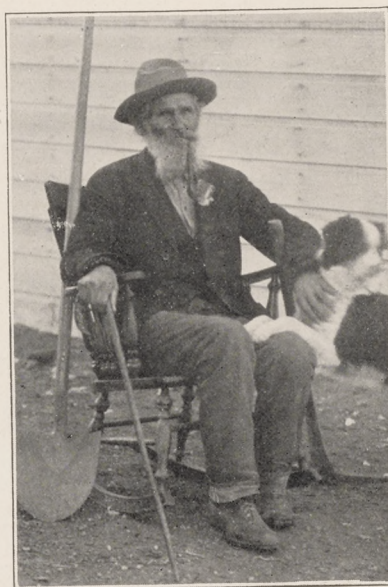
On January 18, 1866, the McConnaughy brothers were surprised and robbed of all their property by the Indians. Their live stock was driven away, five yoke of oxen, a fine span of horses and a milk cow and calf. All of their provisions were destroyed and they were left absolutely destitute. Mr. McConnaughy was shot in the arm and in consequence of which he was obliged to lay for six weeks on his back and was under the care of an army surgeon for six months. After the fight with the Indians and loss of everything they had, the McConnaughy brothers sought aid from the government post, but were unable to even secure blankets. However, their few neighbors divided with them both food and clothing, and the citizens gathered a posse of about twenty people to go in search of the Indians. After following the trail they came upon the Indians by the discovery of a few cattle. They located an Indian scout and ran him into an Indian stronghold

consisting of eight hundred or more Indians who formed into line of battle, but three white men with Henry rifles kept them at bay until all the posse had time to retreat. They then returned to the valley and sent to Smoke Creek for a company of soldiers commanded by Major Smith, and again the citizens who could go with the soldiers returned to the Indian camp and followed their trail for twenty miles, where they came upon them and killed eighty Indians. Major Smith and seven men were wounded at the first fire and one man killed.

Mr. McConnaughy with Peter Peterson was the first to file on water from Bidwell Creek and the first to use water for irrigation purposes in Modoc County. The first crop planted in this section of Modoc County was in the spring of 1865, by the McConnaughy brothers. Apple trees planted in the spring of 1864 on land now owned by Mr. McConnaughy are still bearing some of the finest fruit grown in Modoc County.

Mr. McConnaughy has been farming and cropping the same land since the spring of 1865 and has never had a crop failure. All sorts of fruits and vegetables of hardy varieties have been tested by Mr. McConnaughy and their adaptability have been proven.

Mr. McConnaughy was practically the founder of the town of Fort Bidwell and conducted a hotel there for a time, which he sold in 1876. At one time he was the largest stock man in Modoc County. He came to California in 1863 by the way of Panama and worked his way from San Francisco to Indian Valley, Plumas County, and thence to Washoe County, Nevada, and from there to Surprise Valley. He is a promoter of public interests, and a public-spirited citizen and advocate of good roads.



TILLMAN C. HESS,
First Gold Producer in Modoc County,
Canby, California.
Owner of the Famous Hess Mine.

Mr. Hess settled in Hot Springs Valley in the spring of 1870, when Indians were the sole inhabitants—and they were very thick, too.

On the ranch of Mr. Hess can still be found pits that were used by the Indians in which to trap wild game along the banks of Pit River, for the Hot Spring Valley was their favorite hunting ground.

Mr. Hess took out a squatter's right and later pre-empted and homesteaded three hundred and twenty acres

of land and acquired the balance of his holdings, which now amount to over twelve hundred acres.

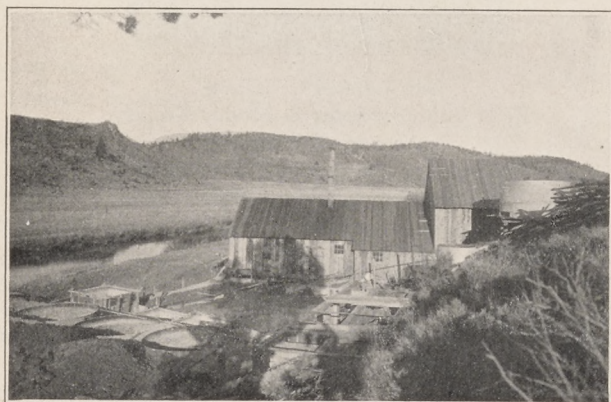
The first farming done by Mr. Hess was with a wooden plow, which he manufactured himself from mountain mahogany.

Mr. Hess is an early Pacific Coast pioneer, for he arrived in Oregon by the Overland Team Route from Arkansas in 1843, in a party which was piloted by the now famous Dr. Whitman. He located twenty-two miles southwest of where the city of Portland now stands, in Chehalen Valley, Yamhill County. Here he lived and farmed with his father until he married at the age of twenty-six and began life for himself.



MINERS' CABIN, HESS MINE.

About 1890 Mr. Hess received a severe injury to his back and became unable to work on the farm, and having prospected more or less at various times in Modoc County for many years, he turned his attention to prospecting in Western Modoc County, Shasta County, and Jackson County, Oregon, but met with poor success. After several years of prospecting and failing to locate a profitable claim, he purchased, in 1899, a mine near Redding and erected a steam stamp mill which he operated for three months and sold the mine. He then returned to the ranch and again began to prospect at home. He located several claims at what is now known as Happy Camp, in western Modoc County, but finally abandoned them and again returned to the farm. In 1903 he located two claims near the main highway, three miles from his own home. His neighbors, thereat, considered him mentally unbalanced. However he pursued the work of development of the claims and in the fall of the same year he bonded the mine to a Mr.



STAMP MILL, HESS MINE.

Cottrell of Reno, who worked on the claim for about four months and abandoned it and the location lapsed, but the claim was re-located in 1905 by J. M. Hess, a son of Mr. Hess. Two months afterwards Mr. Hess again acquired the property by purchase and he immediately commenced development with aid of hired help and worked steadily as possible sinking a shaft and tunneling.



SHAFT HOUSE, HESS MINE.

Photo by Riesen.

In the fall of 1908 he purchased a five stamp mill and erected it during the winter of 1909; and in the spring milling ore began, which at that time assayed an average of \$46.00 per ton. In the fall of 1909 Mr. Hess leased the mine to Mr. J. L. Harvey, who added five more stamps and cyanide tanks. The mine has been steadily developed and the main shaft is now at a depth of over three hundred feet with drifts, and at the time of this writing is producing and shipping an average of over one thousand dollars per week and is operated with a very small force of men.

To Mr. Hess and his mine is due the demonstration of the value of the mineral belt of Modoc County and to such men the work owes a tribute.

WILLIAM T. CRESSLER,

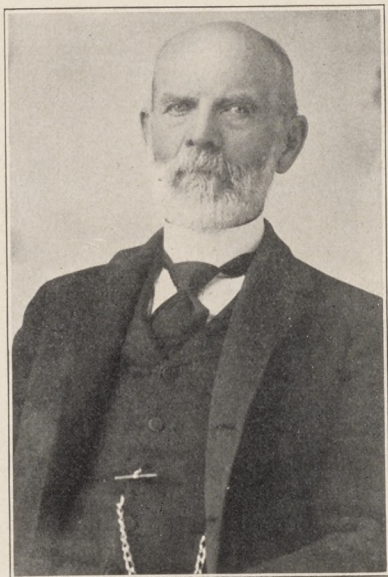
Pioneer Merchant and Modoc County Celebrity.

Mr. Cressler is sometimes called the father of Modoc County, for he it was who first favored the organization of a new county to be formed from the east end of Siskiyou County. This was in 1874, when Mr. Cressler was assemblyman, having been elected on an independent ticket with the understanding that he favored the organization of a new county.

The Legislature met the following winter and Mr. Cressler drew the organic act which was passed by the Assembly and the new county was named Canby.

When the bill reached the Senate the word Canby was changed to Modoc, which name nearly defeated the bill on account of the ill feeling toward the Modoc Indians. At the time that Modoc County was formed it was assessed for about one million dollars—the assessment is now about six millions.

Mr. Cressler is a native of Pennsylvania and was born on April 23, 1836, of well-to-do parents. He received his early education in public schools and later at a private academy. At the age of nineteen he left home and went to Scott County, Iowa, where he taught school for two years, and then studied law for about three years and was admitted to practice in the Supreme Court of Iowa in 1859.



In the spring of 1860 he was obliged to leave the law office on account of ill health, as he had been given up to die by his physician on account of pulmonary disease.

He joined an emigrant train bound for California and walked the entire distance with the exception, perhaps of one hundred miles. From the Platte River, in Nebraska, the Indians were very troublesome and at Salt Lake the caravan joined with other emigrants and the wagon train thus increased from thirteen to thirty-three wagons and a military company formed by the men of the party, which comprised ninety-five guns, and from there they proceeded across the desert under military discipline. They traveled over Lassen Trail via Susanville to Red Bluff, arriving there September 19, 1860. There Mr. Cressler secured employment as a common laborer at one dollar per diem. After a short time at this work he secured an appointment as school teacher at Red Bluff and taught school there for four winter terms. During the summer months he drove a freight team. Here he was married in January, 1865, to Miss Annie A. Alvord, and at the end of his fourth term of school he became a clerk in the hardware store of H. Kraft, at Red Bluff. While in this position he was elected Superintendent of Public Schools in the fall of 1865.

In 1867 he was obliged to again seek a better climate and higher altitude. He associated himself with John H. Bonner, and they purchased four loads of freight, consisting of general merchandise to the value of about \$4,000 and started for Surprise Valley, Siskiyou County.

Surprise Valley opportunities had been reported to them by a teamster named Townsend, who hauled goods from Red Bluff to Fort Bidwell.

They arrived at Surprise Valley, where Cedarville now stands on July 12, 1867. There they found nothing but sage brush and one log cabin, which was occupied. Here they camped and opened their stock of merchandise for sale in the open sage brush with a vicious dog for a guard. They later occupied the log cabin, which now stands the pioneer building of Cedarville.

In a very short space of time their stock of goods was sold and a new stock purchased. The business prospered, and thus Cressler & Bonner founded the town site of Cedarville and a post office was established. The name Cedarville originated from a cedar tree near the mouth of Cedar Canyon.

Following the advent of Cressler & Bonner, about one year, a hotel was erected, also a blacksmith shop and stable. Later a saloon was opened.

Cressler and Bonner laid out the town site of Cedarville and the first grove of trees in any town north of Sacramento was planted on a tract of land which was pre-empted by Mr. Bonner.

The first church in Cedarville was largely donated by Mr. Cressler, and the lot on which it stands was also donated by Cressler & Bonner. Mr. Cressler personally donating \$1600 toward the building.

For several years the road now used from Alturas to Cedarville was kept as a private road by Cressler & Bonner previous to its acceptance by the county. In 1873 Cressler & Bonner turned their mercantile business over to other hands and entered the banking business, under the same firm name. They continued in the banking business until the death of Mr. Bonner, on November 19, 1904. Since that time Mr. Cressler has devoted his time and attention to the settlement of the estate of Mr. Bonner and the investment of his own private resources. Mr. Cressler has never invested his surplus money away from home.

Mr. Cressler owns several cattle ranches. He can drive his cattle from Nevada and Oregon ranches to a shipping point on the N. C. O. Railroad and stop on his own property every night.

Mr. Cressler is deeply interested in the liquor question and devotes his time and money to fighting the evil, and to his efforts it is no doubt due that Modoc County to-day is called a dry county.



FIRST STORE IN CEDARVILLE, OWNED BY CRESSLER & BONNER Photo by Matthews.

CHARLES W. WILLIAMS.

A Successful Pioneer.

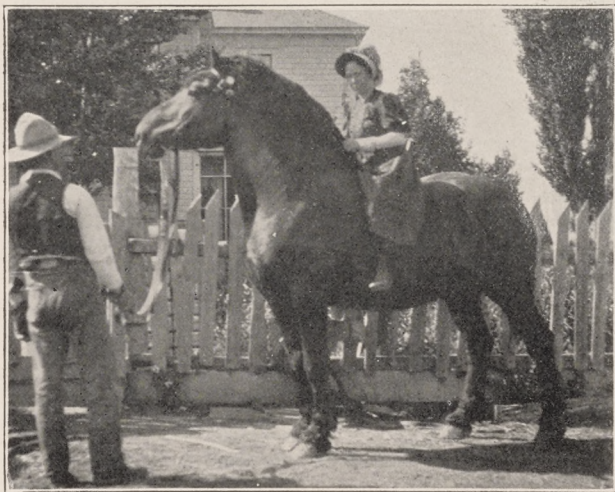
In 1872 Mr. Williams came to the South Fork of Pit River, near the place where the town of Likely now stands. The country at that time was inhabited by Indians, coyotes and a few whites. But the beauty and future possibilities appealed to Mr. Williams and he settled down on a one hundred and sixty acre homestead, thereby securing peace and plenty for his future years. Since that time he has acquired, by purchase and filing, additional land until his ranch now contains 1500 acres. This land is situated about half a mile north of Likely, and extends along both sides of the South Fork of Pit River, and is composed of partly rich bottom lands and partly of higher grain and alfalfa lands.



RANCH HOUSE OF C. W. WILLIAMS.

Snuggled in the midst of a four-acre orchard, surrounded by a garden, lies the dwelling of Mr. Williams, considered to be one of the most beautiful homes in Modoc County. In this home the watchword has been hospitality, and few have been the times in its history when it was not the home of laughter and song and the center of social life and pleasure.

In 1883 Mr. Williams married Miss Judieth Gary, who was herself one of the pioneers of South Fork, having settled there in 1870, and who has ably assisted Mr. Williams in building up his ranch. Four children were born to them, one son and three daughters, two of the latter of whom are married and all of whom are living at home or close by. Mr. Williams owns a home in Sacramento and lives there a part of the year.



A THOROUGHBRED FROM THE WILLIAMS RANCH.

Mr. Williams was engaged in the stock raising industry, giving especial attention to the raising of fine mules. He has the distinction of being the first man to plant and raise alfalfa for seed in Modoc County, and from his first crop was threshed about 3,000 pounds of seed. This item is of especial value when considering the fact that seed from Modoc County is now considered as second to none in the world. Mr. Williams was also the first bee keeper in Modoc.

As with all pioneers you will always find Mr. Williams and his family with the interests of Modoc County at heart and especially the welfare of the South Fork country.

BIDWELL BOOSTERS.

The town of Fort Bidwell has for several years been the center for a number of new enterprises which, when carried to completion, will be of vast benefit to the town and to Surprise Valley. A few progressive spirits, fully realizing this and feeling the need of an organization to stimulate and keep up interest in our many undeveloped resources, organized a club with the above name August 18, 1911.

The membership is not restricted in any way by race, color or social standing, so that nearly every man in the north end of the valley is a member. We have also as members a number of prominent citizens in the other nearby towns, besides several honorary members, distinguished men of large affairs.

There is no membership fee, but every member is expected to contribute what he can afford when, for a worthy purpose, we desire to raise money.

The object of the organization is implied in the name. We endeavor to promote and advertise the mining, irrigation and agricultural interests; to build and maintain good roads and to do such other things as may from time to time come within our power for the common good.

CHAS. E. LEITHEAD, *President*,
E. O. FRANKLIN, *Vice-President*,
A. B. GLASIER, *Secretary*,
R. R. BAKER, *Treasurer*.



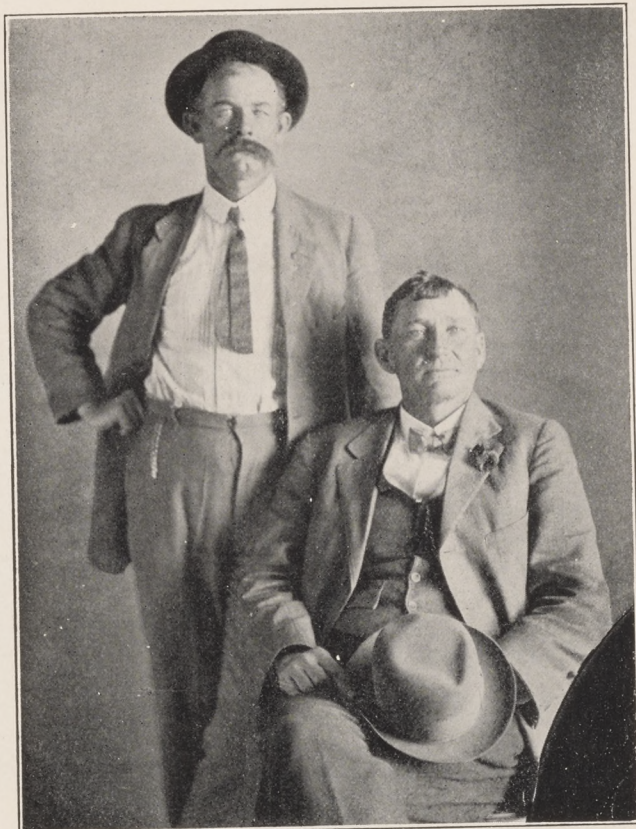
FIRST DWELLING ERECTED IN FORT BIDWELL BY A WHITE MAN—BUILT BY R. F. McCONAUGHY.

DR. W. H. PATTERSON.

Dr. W. H. Patterson is one of the old citizens of Surprise Valley, having come there as an Army Surgeon in 1871.

Now, at the age of sixty-eight, he still enjoys good health and is quietly enjoying the fruits of his labors in the possession of one of the best farms in the county. It covers some 2,000 acres and is managed successfully by his two sons and one daughter under the firm name of "Patterson Co."

His greatest pride is in his family and that they are proving good American citizens, as he has tried to be.



LON SHEDD.

CARSE CROWDER.

CARSON EDWARD CROWDER.

Was born in Woodland in 1866, and is therefore 45 years of age. In 1876 he came to Modoc County, being then eleven years of age. He attended the public schools of the county in a desultory sort of way, but was employed most of the time as a laborer on the ranch of Chas. Dean in the lower end of Goose Lake Valley.

When about fifteen years of age he went to work for D. C. Berry & Co., on the ranch now known as the Lake Shore Cattle Co. When about twenty he took charge of the ranch, it having been purchased from Berry & Co. by Dr. C. M. Kober, Major Spaulding and Leroy Whitmore, who constituted the latter company. At that time the ranch consisted of about 1800 acres. Upon the death of Major Spaulding, and his interest in the company being offered for sale, Mr. Crowder, who was assisted in a financial way by Dr. Kober, purchased the same. It was then that the foresight and business tact of the young manager of the property began to be displayed. The ranch carried about 5,000 head of cattle, besides horses and mules. As beef was disposed of and shipped, the proceeds, instead of all going into dividends, were invested in more land. This was done in many instances against the earnest protests of his partners. But Mr. Crowder had the foresight to see the value of the investments, and continued until he had accumulated more than 5,000 acres of rich bottom lands. Absurd as it may appear, some of this land was purchased by Mr. Crowder at \$3.50 per acre, but is now well worth \$100 per acre.

Thus it will be seen that from a mere errand boy on the ranch, Mr. Crowder became in turn manager and then partner, and can now write his wealth with six big figures.

The Lake Shore Ranch and cattle will shortly be sold; in fact negotiations to that end are now in progress. It will then be cut up into small tracts to suit purchasers, and will afford homes in "Golden Goose Lake Valley" for a host of farmers and orchardists.

A strong trait in the character of Mr. Crowder is his ability to manage men, to attach them to his interests and hold them indefinitely. One of his men, Lon Shedd, has been with him nineteen years, and he too has accumulated a "good stake" for his old age.



RESIDENCE OF LON SHEDD, DAVIS CREEK.

Photo by Riesen.



SPRINGS ON MARTIN RANCH.

*Photo by Riesen.***BIDWELL HOT SPRINGS.**

Owned by F. M. Martin.

Nestling between two mountain peaks of the Warner Range and within one mile of the rapidly growing town of Fort Bidwell, Modoc County, lies the Fort Bidwell Mineral Hot Springs Ranch, and although little is known to the outside world, locally it is looked upon as one of God's grandest offerings.

The farm consists of 240 acres, is owned and conducted by Fred M. Martin, who owes his existence and fine physical condition of to-day entirely to the medicinal properties of the health-giving waters of the springs that percolate the soil on this farm.

The cavalcade of people, ranging from the line of pedestrians to the automobile that daily visit this sunlit vale of Godliness to drink of and bathe in these wonderful waters bear testimony of the high esteem in which it is held by local people.

Although nearly 5000 feet above sea level, at this spot the mercury seldom falls to zero, the air being as warm and balmy as Lowell's "day in June" in his loved New England, and as early as the latter days of March the earth is redolent with sprouting grasses and shrubs.

Many of the fruits and berries of tropical climates grow in abundance, the trees and berry bushes bearing wonderful crops of the finest fruits grown in any land and there seems to be no limit to the life of the fruit bearing trees. One tree that has stood for thirty years having borne 800 pounds of apples during the year 1911.

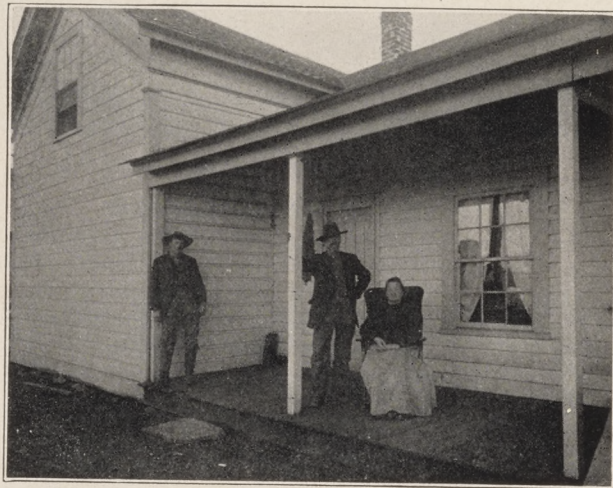
Bidwell Creek, flowing some 300 inches of fresh, pure mountain water gushing from the mountain side not three miles distant, flows through the center of the farm; the supply far exceeding the demand, as most all the produce of the farm is grown in abundance and ripens with but little moisture. The soil is a rich black loam that needs no fertilization.

Bidwell Creek abounds with mountain trout, ranging in size from an eighth of a pound to two pounds, and those of the Martin family or his many guests have only to step out of the farm house door to cool his sportsman blood in the casting of the fly.

Just back of the farm on the higher mountains and within a few miles of the home abound deer, grouse, sage hen and many other of the smaller game.

As to scenic advantages the writer is impelled by its beautiful location and environments to record a few words, and it would be putting it mildly to say that no sunset sea with all its shores of glory can equal this spot of Godliness, abounding as it does with God's greatest gifts, beauty and health.

Surrounding it on the south and west lies one of the richest undeveloped agricultural districts in the world, and on the north and west by the Hoag mining district, which is fast coming into distinction.



DWELLING OF J. F. OWENS, GOOSE LAKE VALLEY.

*Photo by Riesen.***J. F. OWENS RANCH,
Goose Lake Valley.**

Adjoining Mr. Olivers on the south is the farm of J. F. Owens. The ranch is composed of 150 acres of good agricultural land, 50 acres are planted in grain, and the yield of barley, in 1911 was 61 bushels per acre. The balance of the land is now used as meadow and pasture. The meadow is subirrigated. Mr. Owens also has a garden and orchard. The picture herewith shows Mr. Owens' house.

Old Relic.

Mr. Owens is the proud possessor of a relic of the days of General Fremont, which he prizes very highly. It is a pair of deer horns, which at the time General Fremont was snow bound in what is known as Lost Cannon, Mono County, was hung in a small tree. The horns were forgotten when the camp was broken, and forty-eight years later they were found by Mr. Owens. The tree had grown completely around them, and Mr. Owens had to cut the tree down to secure the horns. The relic was on exhibition at the Mid-Winter Fair in San Francisco, in 1894.

**JOHN GOULD,
Rancher and Stock Raiser.**

Among the many breeders of fine horses in Big Valley, there are none who think more of a blooded animal than Mr. Gould. Herewith is a picture of one of Mr. Gould's registered studs, "Modoc Chief," six years old, weight 1850 pounds. For information regarding his horses drop him a line, addressed to Lookout.



MODOC CHIEF. Photo by Riesen.

**J. L. AND C. F. HARVEY,
Breeders of Pure Bred Percherons.**

In Big Valley, situated in the west end of Modoc County, the Harvey Bros., J. L. and C. F. have turned their attention to the breeding and raising of pure bred horses. The horse shown herewith is one owned by a company and at the time the picture was taken was on the ranch of the Harvey Bros. He is a full blooded, registered Percheron, five years old, weighs 2230 pounds and is a beautiful black in color. His registered name is Gaiton.

Some of the finest mares in the county are owned by the Harveys. The accompanying picture is that of four of the registered ones. Helen, dark gray, is three years old and weighs 1800 pounds; Vivian, light iron gray, is four years old and weighs 1700; Myrtle, white, is seven years old and weight 1900; Queen is a bay seventeen years old and weighs 1900 pounds. They are all Percherons. For further information address J. L. and C. F. Harvey, Adin, California.



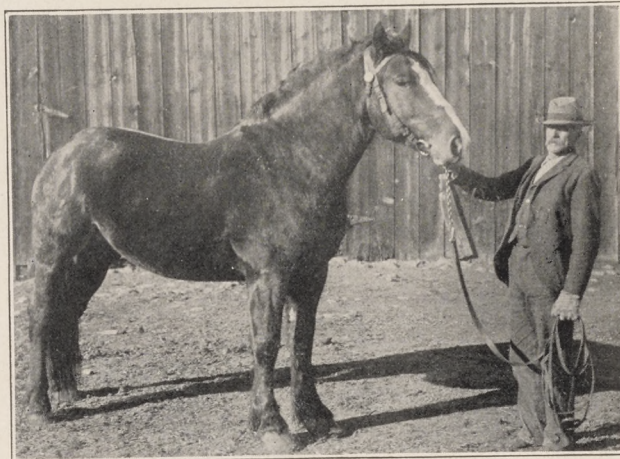
GAITON. Photo by Riesen.



THOROUGHBRED MARES. Photo by Riesen.

**RANCH OF R. B. CLARK,
Big Valley.**

The ranch of R. B. Clark, containing 240 acres, is in Big Valley, part of the property extending into the town of Adin. Of this acreage, 60 acres is planted in alfalfa, and 140 acres is in timothy, the balance being pasturage. Mr. Clark is a breeder of fine horses and the picture herewith is one taken of his registered Percheron stud, "General Lawton." This horse is a beauty, brown in color, four years old, and weighs 2000 pounds. Mr. Clark has owned this ranch for ten years, and among other things he has the reputation of making some of the best butter ever made in Modoc County, for which he finds a ready sale.



GENERAL LAWTON. Photo by Riesen.

**RANCH OF E. D. PAYNE,
Parker Creek.**

Situated about eleven miles from Alturas, on Parker Creek, lies the ranch of E. D. Payne. It is composed of 640 acres, 150 of which is rich creek bottom land and the balance higher grain and alfalfa land. Abundance of water is furnished by Parker Creek. The ranch joins the Modoc National Forest, which insures fine range upon which horses thrive the year round. Cattle generally require feeding for about three months each year. The ranch produces over 100 tons of timothy, red top and alfalfa hay. It is a natural garden spot and all kinds of berries, melons and vegetables grow in abundance. Surrounding the house are 70 bearing fruit trees and 200 smaller trees not yet in bearing. Mr. Payne is justly proud of his ranch, and will gladly answer any inquiries in regard to property in his section.



RANCH HOME OF W. S. AND H. A. FLEMING.

RANCH OF W. S. & H. A. FLEMING, Goose Lake Valley.

One of the best pieces of ranch property in Goose Lake Valley is that owned by W. S. and H. A. Fleming, situated about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of Willow Ranch. The ranch was first taken up about 1870, and has paid a dividend every year on the capital and work expended. It contains 440 acres, divided as follows: alfalfa, 70 acres; timothy and wild grass, 100 acres; orchard and garden, 5 acres; grain, barley and wheat, 130 acres. About 35 acres which lie along the foot hills is the finest kind of apple land. The remaining 100 acres is used for pasture but could be cultivated. The water for irrigating is furnished by Myrtle Creek which runs through the ranch.

While this ranch is not for sale, the Fleming Bros. are willing to answer questions regarding property and crops in this section.

RESIDENCE OF MR. GREENE, NEW PINE CREEK.
Photo by Riessen.

HEREFORD & GREEN RANCH, Goose Lake Valley.

The ranch known as the Hereford & Green place is situated on the east shore of Goose Lake, and extends for about two miles down the lake from the Oregon line. The ranch contains about 1000 acres, practically all under cultivation. This property was acquired by Hereford & Green about four years ago. Heretofore the raising of beef cattle was their main business, but at the present time, while they still have a number of cattle and sheep, a good deal of their time is spent attending to this well kept ranch. Mr. Green, while not as young as he was some twenty years ago, in fact he is now fifty four years of age, is hale and hearty and can hold up

his end with most of the younger men. The pictures herewith is one taken of Mr. Green and his favorite black stallion, and one of his residence in New Pine Creek.

F. J. POWERS RANCH, Cedarville, Cal.

One of the finest stock ranches in Modoc County is that owned by F. J. Powers, of Cedarville, Cal. It contains 1600 acres, 740 of which is under cultivation; the principal part being planted to grain, hay and alfalfa.

Mr. Powers has specialized on raising fine horses and cattle and believes thoroughly that it pays to raise the best. His cattle always command the top price on account of their splendid condition.

German Coach and Percheron draft horses are the principal types raised by Mr. Powers. The ranch is cultivated with the end in view of developing and improving his stock and Mr. Powers attributes his success to the fact that he has attended strictly to business, and the use of improved methods in feeding and caring for his stock.

MR. GREEN'S FAVORITE BLACK STALLION.
Photo by Riessen.

HOAG MINING DISTRICT. Evening Star Group.

This group of claims is situated at the S. E. corner of Section 1, Tp. 47, R. 16, E., and consists of four mining claims. The Klondike lies just east of the summit and has a well defined vein in place, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide that carries values from \$45 to \$150 in gold to the ton.

The White Quartz lies just east of the Klondike and has two well defined veins that assay from \$12 to \$25.

The Evening Star is adjoining the White Quartz on the east and has many small veins and stringers running into the above claims that carry good values. Any information in regard to above property will be gladly furnished by writing W. D. Broadus, Ft. Bidwell, Cal.



EVENING STAR GROUP, BIDWELL MINING DISTRICT.

RANCH OF FRED H. ROBERTS,
Big Valley.

The ranch of Fred H. Roberts, in Big Valley, near Look-out, was started in 1878. It contains 720 acres; 150 of which is in grain, 125 in alfalfa, 200 in pasture, and the balance is good grain and alfalfa land but has never been cultivated. Mr. Roberts also owns another ranch in Big Valley containing 420 acres of good grain and alfalfa land. Mr. Roberts is one of the Pioneers of Big Valley, and any one wishing information about that section of Modoc County can secure same by writing to him.



RANCH HOUSE OF F. H. ROBERTS.
Photo by Riesen.

RANCH OF JOHN VOGT,
Big Valley.

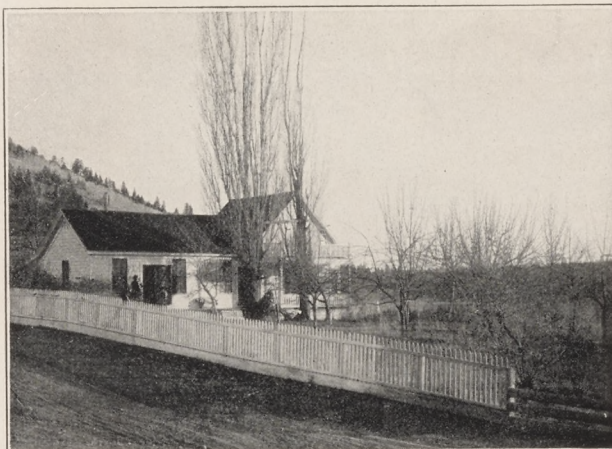
The ranch owned by John Vogt in Big Valley, contains 840 acres, and after only eight years of work in clearing land, and planting crops, shows conclusively that Modoc County is the land of opportunity to the man who is industrious. 240 acres of this ranch is now planted in grain, 250 acres in alfalfa, and 140 acres in meadow, where the timothy hay grows rank. The balance of the land is sage brush and pasture. Mr. Vogt runs about 250 head of hogs, 40 head of cattle and 50 head of horses on this pasture land, which is sufficient to keep them in good condition. He also has a small orchard and garden for raising truck for his own use. Ash Creek runs through his place, giving him ample water for all purposes.



HOME OF JOHN VOGT, BIG VALLEY.
Photo by Riesen.

RANCH OF J. M. KIRKPATRICK.
Willow Ranch.

The ranch of J. M. Kirkpatrick at Willow Ranch consists of about 1500 acres of good agricultural land, good for either grain or alfalfa. Of this only about 770 acres have been put under cultivation, divided as follows: 250 acres of grain, 500 clover and timothy hay, 20 alfalfa. The land is largely sub-irrigated and Willow Creek flows through the land, furnishing plenty of water for irrigating purposes. Around the house about one acre has been planted to fruit and vegetables for their own use. Without doubt the N. C. O. will establish a station on Mr. Kirkpatrick's ranch, which will be the shipping point for Fandango Valley and the upper end or Surprise Valley.



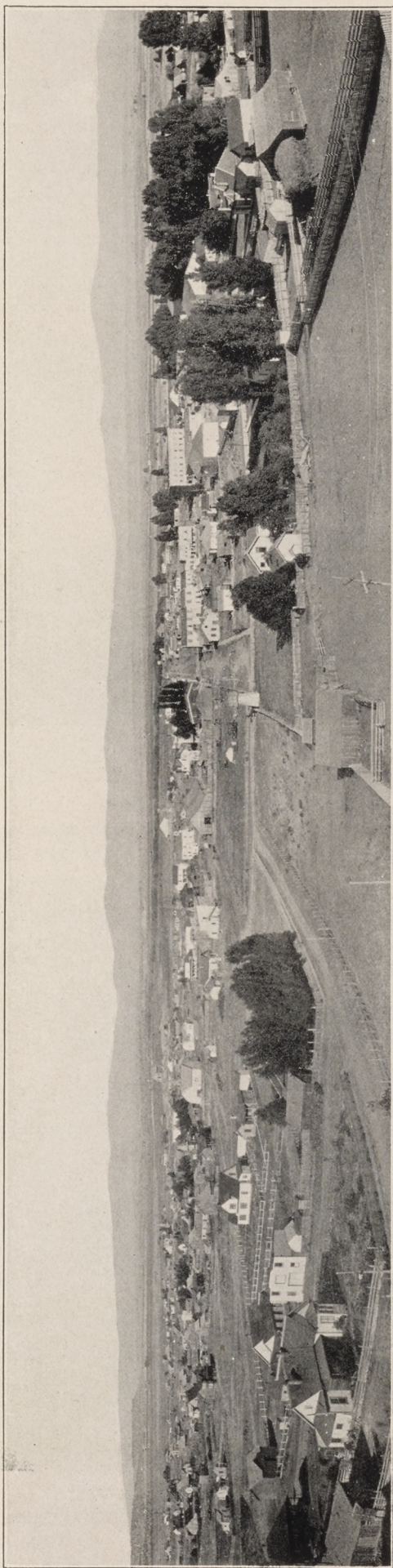
DWELLING OF J. M. KIRKPATRICK, WILLOW RANCH.
Photo by Riesen.

ISAAC ROBNETT RANCH.

The ranch of Isaac Robnett, situated in Goose Lake Valley, north of Willow Ranch, demonstrates what can be done with time, patience and work. His ranch contains 428 acres. Of this, 60 acres are planted in alfalfa (for seed), and 70 in alfalfa hay; 40 acres in grain, about 100 acres of meadow, and five acres of orchard and garden. The balance is all good land that could be put under cultivation. Mr. Robnett has running water in his house and also in his barn, which he gets from a spring on the hill. Mr. Robnett will be glad to answer any questions addressed to him regarding his ranch or property in Goose Lake Valley.



ISAAC ROBNETT'S HOUSE, GOOSE LAKE VALLEY.
Photo by Riesen.



BIRD'S-EYE VIEW OF ALTURAS, LOOKING EAST.

UNCLE DUDLEY VISITS ALTURAS.

As I was a goin' to say. I heerd so much about Alturas a boomin', that I thot I would jest go in town an' see how things was a movin'. And I sure did. Some fellers told me to look out fer them air Pitt River hardware fellers. I jest wondered what was wrong with 'em, an' as there was so much talk about 'em, I sed to myself, "Uncle Dudley, you better go in an' see what causes so much talk about them air hardware fellers." An' so I did.

A peart lookin' young man was a standin' behind the counter, an' I had no more than put my foot in the door than he spied me an' says, "Hello, Uncle Dud, howdy. Can we do anything fer you?" "Well," I sed, "I can't jest tell yer till I get my bearin's. But I would like to see that dad of yourn." So he yells, "Dad, up front!" Uncle Dud wants ter see yer." An' so he did come front. An' when I perused that face of hisn, I sed ter myself, "Uncle Dud, when yer see that air man Ingraham yer can't help a buyin' from him." I ain't a goin' ter tell yer what he looks like, but when yer see him onct yer will always know him, fer he makes yer feel ter home like. By heck, he's the real L. O. L. P. an' when yer look at him yer can see L. O. L. P. spreadin' all over his face. An' jest before I ferget it I want ter tell yer that L. O. L. P. means Leader of Low Prices.

Dad says, "B'gosh, Uncle Dud! You're jest the feller that I want ter see." An' so I was. Dad wanted ter show me how Alturas was a boomin'. An' I'll be dad busted if he didn't. He first took me over to the Hotel Niles, and it was amazin' like ter see how that air man Niles had things fixed up. Then we went ter the Morse Hotel where everythin' was in the same amazin' style. But when he took me ter the Hotel Curtis, I thot sure my eyes would pop out, a seein' things in the way of lavatories, bathrooms, an' sech like.

I jest gasped ter Dad, an' sed, "Gee whiz! where did they git all these nice fixin's?" "Huh," said Dad, "The Pitt River Hardware Co. sells 'em cheaper than any one else in Modoc County. An' besides a havin' the best hardware store, an' the most accommodatin' clerk, they have one of the best plumbers in the State ter set all these fixin's up."

An' then he took me round an' showed me all the houses that he had plumbed. I couldn't see any plums on 'em, but I guess that Dad was right about the plumbin'. And then he showed me how them air city dads hed ther whole gol darned town dug up, a tryin' ter get water inter the houses. I thot that squirrels could dig things up, but that air contractor that is a doin' the diggin' jest beats the squirrels all ter smash. He jest dug the ditches in every street, an' then put a big stand pipe on the hill ter spread the water all over town.

Then Dad took me over ter the grammar school that that air contractor is a buildin', an' showed me the fixin's that the Pitt River Hardware Co. was a furnishin' to heat up the buildin' fer the school children. He told me that his son Arthur was a goin' to do the work cause he knowed how ter do it. Then Dad took me aroun' an' aroun' so much that I got kinder bumfuzzled an' didn't know where I was at, an' was jest goin' to call a policeman, when Dad says, "Don't you know that all roads of Modoc, Uncle Dud, lead to the Pitt River Hardware Co.?" An' I'll be henpecked if they don't. So when we got back ter the store Dad told me all about the city Dads a buildin' a \$7,000 bridge, an' a \$50,000 high school, an' a votin' \$35,000 fer water works, an' \$25,000 fer a grammar school, an' have jest taxed themselves fer a \$75,000 Court House. Then Dad said again, "Uncle Dud, don't yer know that Alturas is a growin' some, an' we're a growin' with the town." An' so they are. An' jest let me tell yer that wen that air man Ingraham an' his two sons git hitched up tandem like, they knock the spots offen any broncko buster that ever tried to bust in a wild horse.

Yours for L. O. L. P.,
UNCLE DUD.



BAPTIST CHURCH, LAKE CITY.
Photo by Matthews.



M. E. CHURCH, CEDARVILLE.
Photo by Matthews.



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, ALTURAS.
Photo by Riesen.



BAPTIST CHURCH, ALTURAS.
Photo by Riesen.

RANCH OF C. M. OLIVER. Goose Lake Valley.

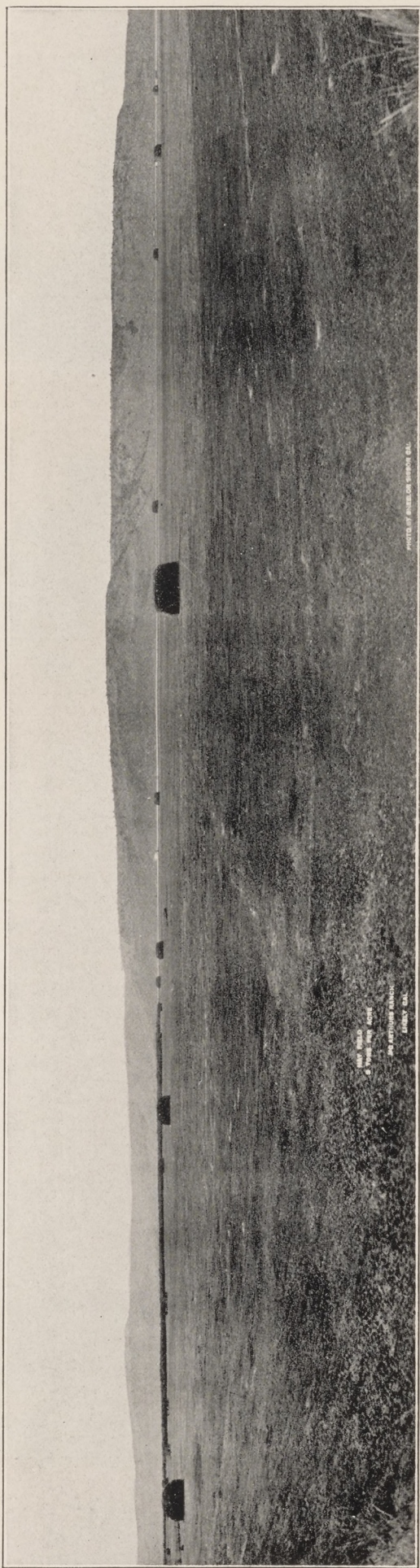
The ranch of C. M. Oliver is situated in Goose Lake Valley about four miles from the town of New Pine Creek. It contains 221 acres, nearly 200 acres of which is under cultivation. Of alfalfa he has 120 acres, making from one and one-half to three tons per acre a year. From fourteen acres of grain this year he secured 863 bushels of barley, nearly sixty-two bushels to the acre. His meadow land brought him two and one-half tons of hay to the acre. It is irrigated and drained by a system of underground ditches. His house is surrounded by about five acres of orchard and garden. Cottonwood Creek flows through his land, giving him water for irrigation. The water for his house and barn is supplied by a windmill, from a thirty-six foot well of good water. The following pictures were taken on Mr. Oliver's place, one showing his house and the other some of the hay raised on his place in 1911.



CATHOLIC CHURCH, ALTURAS.
Photo by Riesen.



HOUSE OF C. M. OLIVER.
Photo by Riesen.



THE CORPORATION RANCH OWNED BY MR. FRANK McARTHUR.

GREATEST LAND HOLDING IN MODOC COUNTY TO BE SUBDIVIDED AND COLONIZED.

THE story of the acquisition of this great property of eighteen thousand acres of the finest land in Northern California is a splendid one, but space will not permit the telling of it in its entirety.

To Mr. Geo. H. Bayley's constructive genius is due the building up of these broad acres of rich land into one holding. He arrived in Modoc County over forty years ago and recognizing, with almost prophetic vision, the wonderful future that lay before the land of his choice, he at once began the labor of acquiring title to and developing and sub-dividing the wilderness that lay at his feet. Truly, the pioneers of the West were men of strong hearts who knew not the meaning of the words fear, failure or discouragement, and among these sturdy pioneers none displayed greater courage or met with stouter heart the trials and difficulties of the early settlers than did Geo. H. Bayley. To appreciate fully the wonderful work accomplished single handed and unaided by this one man, you must ride over and view the fertile lands he has made productive and the miles of canals he has built. Two of these canals—one on either side of this rich and lovely rancho—are forty feet wide and deep enough to float a steamboat. They carry water to irrigate the thousands of acres of the richest peat lands in the world. The writer has seen timothy hay six feet tall growing on these lands and oats and barley that yielded over 100 bushels to the acre.

Many thousands of acres of this vast tract, in fact the greater portion of the entire holding, is of the same quality and character of soil as the peat lands of the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers, and, like these lands, is especially adapted to the growth of vegetables, grass and grains. At the present time oats, barley and hay are the principal crops grown on the land, all of which are produced in profitable quantities.

Mr. Frank McArthur and associates who purchased Mr. Bayley's holdings in 1911 propose to sell this land to dairy men, for it is particularly adapted for the production of clover and alfalfa, and such root crops as beets, turnips, carrots, etc.

There are two railroad stations on the rancho, which insures ready transportation to the market of all products.

The present owners will subdivide the land into tracts, as desired by prospective purchasers, and will sell to them on an installment plan that will enable the man of small means to acquire a holding that in future years will place him in a position of affluence.

For further information address Frank McArthur, manager, Modoc Land and Live Stock Co., Likely, Modoc Co., Cal.



CUTTING HAY ON THE CORPORATION RANCH, LIKELY.

Photo by Riesen.

GEORGE H. KNIGHT.

Merchant and Modoc County Booster,
Adin, Cal.

Mr. Knight conducts the largest mercantile business in Southwestern Modoc County, with stores at Adin and Look-out.

Mr. Knight is a California pioneer in every sense of the word. He came to Yreka, Siskiyou County, in 1858. In 1872 he engaged in the mercantile business in Fall River Valley, Shasta County. In 1873 he entered the employ of E. Lauer & Co., at Adin, as bookkeeper. In 1876, in company with Mr. T. A. Roseberry, he purchased the store and business of E. Lauer & Co. In 1888 Mr. Knight bought out his partner and since that date the growth of Mr. Knight's business is a matter of record, and few mercantile establishments in Superior California can compare with the store at



INTERIOR OF GEO. H. KNIGHT'S EMPORIUM AT ADIN.

Photo by Riesen.

Adin in point of arrangement, modern conveniences or excellence of stock, for only first-class merchandise is carried in every department. In fact, the store is a department store, and here one can find regular systematized departments of every description, from notion department, a five and ten cent counter, to clothing for both ladies and gentlemen, hardware, groceries, etc., and one can buy in either of his stores anything from a needle to a threshing machine.

Mr. Knight is also president of the Adin Realty Company.

Shortly after the organization of Modoc County, Mr. Knight was elected County Clerk, Auditor and Recorder, and served from 1878 to 1880.

Any inquiries regarding Southwestern Modoc County made to Mr. Knight will be cheerfully answered and truthfully.



COLLECTION OF INDIAN BASKETS OWNED BY MRS. WALKER, ALTURAS.



PART OF LAST YEAR'S CROP ON OLIVER RANCH,
GOOSE LAKE VALLEY.



TYPICAL HAYING SCENE IN MODOC.

*Photo by Matthews.***BIG VALLEY, A GEM OF THE SIERRAS.**

Big Valley is situated in the southwestern part of Modoc County, Cal. Adin, the principal town in the valley, can be visited by people from the east, via the Western Pacific and Southern Pacific, transferring at Doyle, or Reno, to the N. C. O. R. R. to Madeline, then by stage or auto, thirty-two miles to Adin. Pacific Coast visitors, west via the Oregon and California R. R. to Bartles, then the stage or auto, seventy-five miles to Adin. The stage or auto ride brings one through one of the most beautiful scenic sections of the west.

The sun kissed peaks of Mount Lassen and Shasta are your constant companions for miles. The grandeur of Big Valley, with them in the background, will photograph a view on your memory which will surpass any in the past.—it will never fade.

The area of Big Valley is twenty by twenty-five miles, five streams empty into and flow out of the valley. The soil, water and climate are of the best. Timothy, alfalfa, red clover, wheat, barley, oats, and corn are grown equal to any. Fruits from the strawberry to the luscious peach are of the best flavor, and are grown without irrigation. The valley is absolutely free from malaria.

Up to the present time these products have been grown for home consumption only, but now with the assurance of one railroad and possibly two, hundreds of diversified farms will take the place of the horses and cattle that roamed at will; and values in realty lines will rank with our neighbors, who are now realizing more in rentals than ours can be purchased for. At present unimproved lands are from \$5.00 to \$10.00 an acre, improved, from \$15.00 to \$30.00. It is the last of best opportunities in the west. Address all inquiries to

THE ADIN REALTY COMPANY

Adin, Modoc County, Cal.

GEORGE H. KNIGHT, President.

A. A. SUTTON, Manager.

THE CONKLIN SAWMILL.

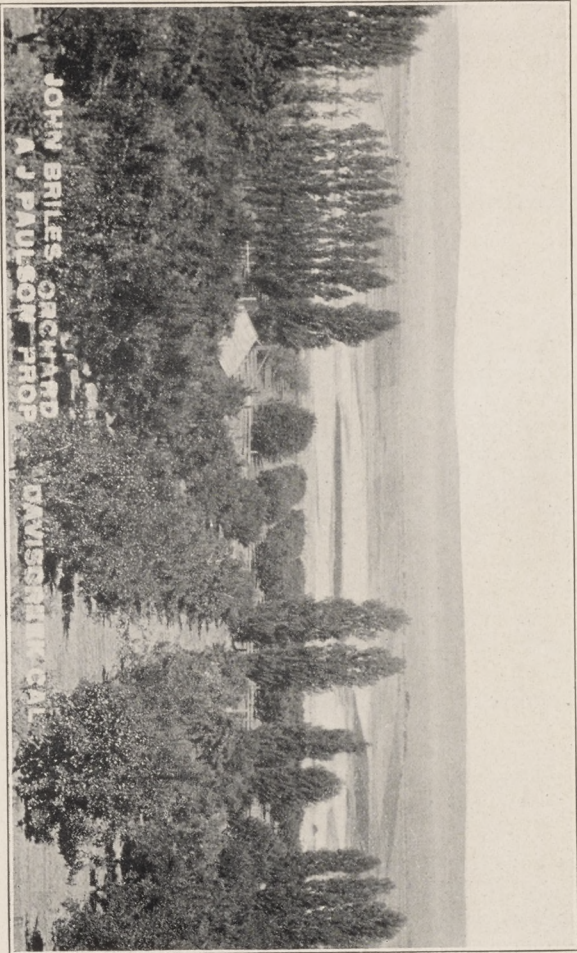
Conducted by W. E. Conklin.

Nestled in a little vale in the best of the timbered mountains between Canby and Adin, is the Conklin Saw Mill, and the dwellings of the owners. The mill is about eight miles from Canby and twelve from Adin, situated on the road, and is always a busy place, for their lumber is used not only in Adin and Canby, but all through the valley. Mr. Conklin established the mill ten years ago, and during that time they have cut about 3,000,000 feet of lumber. The cut below shows the property as it looked when the picture was taken in December.

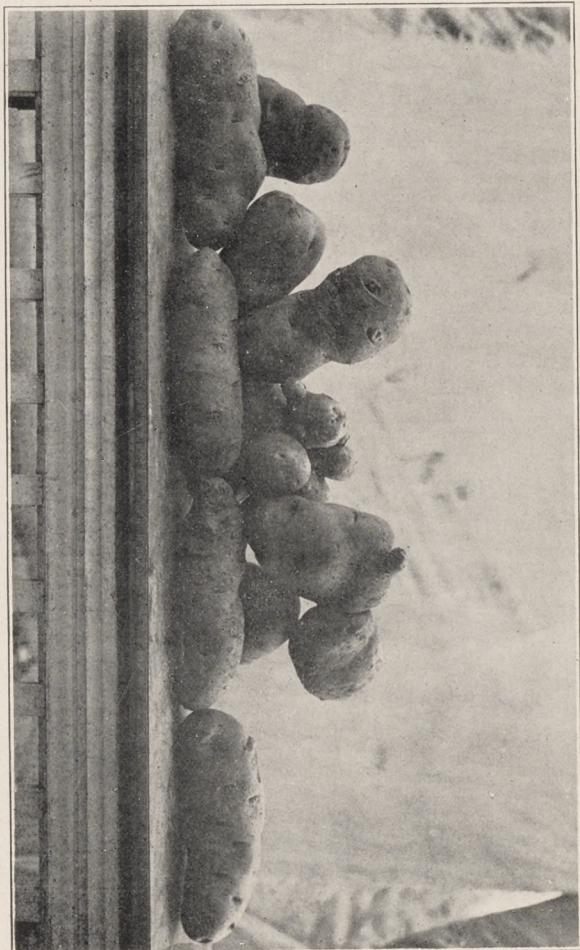


THE CONKLIN SAW MILL.

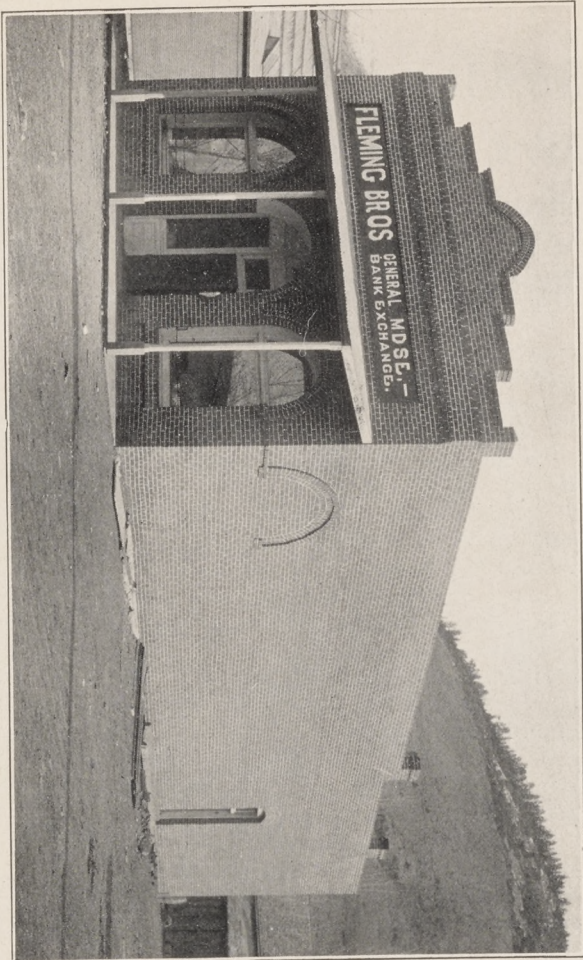
Photo by Riesen.



FAMOUS JOHN BRILES ORCHARD.



POTATOES RAISED ON J. D. MULKEY'S RANCH, DAVIS CREEK. *Photo by Riessen.*



FLEMING BROS. STORE, NEW PINE CREEK.

Photo by Riessen.



RESIDENCE OF J. W. POPE, HOT SPRING VALLEY.

Photo by Riessen.

Empire Building

Surprise Valley's Great Possibilities Being Developed on a Large Scale.

Railroad Building—Irrigation System Construction and the New Town of Modoc Are Among the Facilities Assured the Settlers on the Scores of Thousands of Acres of the Rich Valley Lands.

Last April the Alturas "Plaindealer" reported the first public interest shown in a project of great magnitude and of vast importance to all business men and land owners of Modoc County.

That project was the irrigation of upwards of 70,000 acres of some of the finest land in the county, lying on the east side of Surprise Valley and open to filing under the desert land act. The movement reported in the "Plaindealer" was the arrival in Alturas, en route for Surprise Valley, of about thirty ladies and gentlemen from Los Angeles to see the beautiful valley of Surprise, inspect the great natural lake-reservoir at its head and to file for themselves on half sections of the land which by irrigation is to be made as highly productive as any land in the temperate zone.

Surprise Valley.

The discovery of Surprise Valley dates back about fifty years, to a day when the first settlers, following the Indian trails, in their hunt for rich and sheltered pasture for their stock, topped the divide in the grand Warner range of mountains and saw opening out beneath them a panorama of wooded foothills, mountain streams, level valley lands and lakes stretching for some sixty miles from north to south and assuring them peace and plenty for men and beast.

A Progressive Stock Country.

For fifty years, then, Surprise Valley has been recognized as a great stock country. The west side of it lying under the Warner mountains and forming a strip from two to six miles wide, for the sixty miles north to south, was watered plentifully by the streams flowing all the year and fed by the snows in the heights of the Warner mountains. Many of those first settlers can still be found among the pretty ranch homes and the prosperous little towns which dot the valley's western stretch. That their early choice was handsomely justified is amply proven by the wealth of cattle and the signs of plenty which stock men will see on every hand if they will drive today by automobile along the well built roads from Fort Bidwell in the north, through Lake City and Cedarville about the center, and on to Eagleville in the south.

Many a man, who came to make his home in Surprise Valley from twenty to fifty years ago, is now rated at its bank as being worth from \$50,000 to half a million dollars, and it is the proud boast of the valley people that all its wealth has been made right there, no man having come in with any appreciable capital up to very recent years.

While stock ranging was the main object of the first settlers, it soon became necessary to augment the crops of wild hay by clearing heavy sage brush, cultivating each year a little bigger acreage, and sowing wheat, barley, rye, oats and finally alfalfa. All these crops were found to yield very rich harvests and as a consequence, more and more stock could be fed, until of later years, the greater part of the west side of the valley has been brought to a high state of cultivation, providing winter feed for scores of thousands of head of stock ranged, north and east of the valley itself, in addition to those ranged closer in. Surprise Valley wheat shows frequently 50 to 60 bushels, and has shown up to 90 bushels to the acre, without fertilization, and flour from this wheat took

a premium at the World's Fair in Chicago. Barley shows from 30 to 70 bushels, and alfalfa has beaten all by yielding a seed which is in demand outside at a premium price because of its especial hardness. A return of \$40.00 to the acre from the seed alone is quite common in the valley, while one rancher was paid \$160.00 to the acre last year, and this too at 2½ cents to 3 cents per pound higher than outside prices with the buyer paying the freight out 25 to 50 miles to the railroad at Alturas.

Vegetables and Fruit Cultivated.

Naturally vegetables and fruits were cultivated by the ranchers for home consumption, and a proof was thus given of the enormous possibilities of this land when improved transportation facilities should be furnished to enable them to market apples, pears, plums, cherries, berries, potatoes, cabbages, onions, celery, etc., all of which have been proven by at least 40 years of actual crop experience to be eminently adapted to the section.

Cowhead Lake.

The steady success recorded, year after year, by the west side ranchers in the valley, suggested to certain far-seeing students of the local conditions, the vast possibilities of the strip of land from 2 to 6 miles wide which stretched from north to south for upwards of 50 miles on the east side of that same valley, separated from the west side only by a chain of three shallow lakes into which the west side streams drained, and proving by actual analysis to have exactly similar soil, namely a rich and deep volcanic ash, the settlements of countless ages of washings from the mountains. No high range of mountains, however, was present to supply streams to water the east side, but immediately to the north of it, and 700 feet higher, lay Cowhead Lake, a great natural reservoir, now covering upwards of 3000 acres, and draining a vast mountainous watershed whence the run-off would increase the reservoir to an acreage of 5500 and at an average depth of 30 feet held in by a dam at its north end would provide about three times as much water as could be used in the irrigation of the 70,000 acres of level and bench land forming the east half of Surprise Valley.

Irrigation System Planned.

These facts having been determined, capital was interested, engineers employed to make complete surveys and plans for a great gravity irrigation system, and the thirty ladies and gentlemen referred to as coming into the country on a visit last April, formed the vanguard of a movement of home seekers, land developers, and workers generally, to file upon under the desert land act, clear the land of its heavy growth of sage brush, and prepare it for the alfalfa ranches and apple orchards, for which it is especially suited, as soon as the irrigation system can be completed and the water turned on.

Mile after mile of the level bottom land and the gently sloping benches along the line of the ditch has been taken up since last April by men and women seeking the richest opportunity offered them to exercise their citizen's rights, and towards fall those who could not find open lands were paying up to \$2500 for the relinquishments of 320 acres of land which, when covered with perpetual water rights at \$35



PLOWING SAGEBRUSH ON THE J. H. TRIMBLE RANCH, SURPRISE VALLEY.

Photo by Matthews.



FRUIT RAISED BY J. C. LARGENT, LAKE CITY.

Photo by Matthews.

per acre, cleared and planted in ranch and orchard will certainly command and get from \$150 to \$800 per acre.

Experts in deciduous fruit and alfalfa lands claim for the lands coming under the big irrigation ditch of eastern Surprise Valley with its average altitude of 4650 feet, most ideal conditions for apple culture and for the growth of every temperate zone crop, and prophesy that a very few years will see this the leading apple producing section of the country. They have ample grounds for their claims since there are many orchards in Surprise Valley which have not known a crop failure for 35 years and since apples from these orchards have taken premiums at Seattle Fair and at Watsonville over the Hood River, Rogue River, Yakima and other more widely advertised apple centers.

The development of Surprise Valley embraces not only the construction of a great irrigation system but also the establishment of a town as the business and social center for the hundreds of new-comers, who with their families, are preparing to clear and settle and intensively cultivate the thousands of acres of rich virgin lands coming under the irrigation ditch. It must also most emphatically embrace the provision of those transportation facilities which are necessary for the quick marketing of the fruits, vegetables, and stock which this great valley and its tributary country can raise in such profusion and quality.

It is in short a project of very considerable magnitude, and is in the hands of a company capable of developing it soundly and thoroughly, stage by stage. The party referred to as visiting the valley last spring was composed of members and friends of members of Provident Investment Company of 713 H. W. Hellman Building, Los Angeles.

Mr. T. A. Johnson, President of Provident Investment Company was personally concerned in the organization of Modoc County Irrigation Company,—the title of the company formed for the purpose of constructing the irrigation system—and later effected arrangements by which the Provident Investment Company, underwrote the securities of the Irrigation Company, financing it in its work.

During the last summer Provident Investment Company laid out the new town site of Modoc, situated so as to serve as the town center for a great acreage of the irrigable lands of the east side of Surprise Valley, and on the bar or high way of travel from the west side to the east side of the valley, between Upper and Middle Lakes. Modoc will also serve as the town and shipping center for a great valley known as Long Valley, directly east of Surprise Valley and approached by wagon road through the hills bordering Surprise Valley due east of Modoc. Already Modoc is taking shape as a town, some building having been done this fall, and many lots

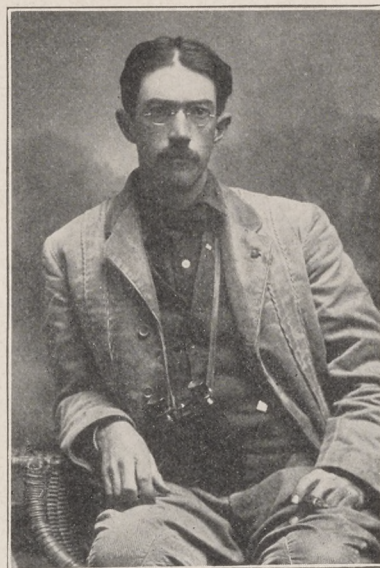


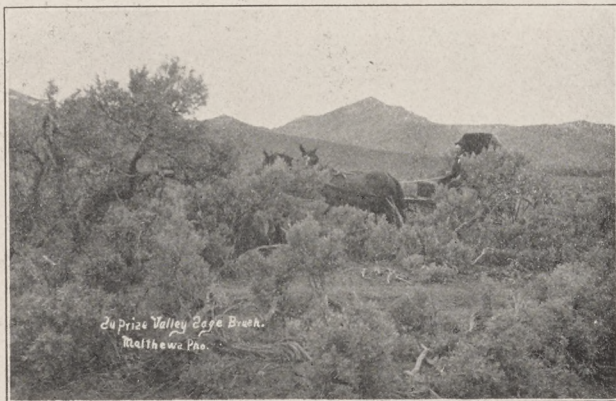
Photo by Matthews.

CHAS. KIRBY FOX,
Chief Engineer Cow Head Lake
Irrigation System.

sold at \$100 and upwards to investors and to Modoc County business people who know what rapid growth in value a new town like Modoc can show when backed as it is by a great orchard, ranching country, to be rapidly settled up and by men who know how to force it quickly forward to an important position among the agricultural towns of the county. Plans already announced, assure great activity for Modoc this coming spring, and owners of its lots, reasonably look for rapid growth in their investment.

Today Surprise Valley is reached by the N. C. & O. R. R., running from Reno, Nevada, to Lake View, Ore., and passing through Alturas the county seat of Modoc County, and the nearest railroad town at present to Surprise Valley. From Alturas, stages and automobiles run the 25 miles over the mountains, to Cedarville, whence Modoc is distant 10 miles east. It is reported, however, that the railroad will shortly affect closer communication with at least the north end of Surprise Valley, being attracted by the fast increasing tonnage which this district is showing.

Provident Investment Company, however, recognized from the commencement of its interests in Surprise Valley that the great fruit, vegetable, and stock possibilities of the valley and tributary country could only be properly developed by the building of a broad gauge railroad through the entire



SURPRISE VALLEY SAGE BRUSH.

Photo by Matthews.



CLEARING SAGE BRUSH ON THE LAND TO BE IRRIGATED FROM COW HEAD LAKE.



APPLE ORCHARD ON GOOCH RANCH—SURPRISE VALLEY.

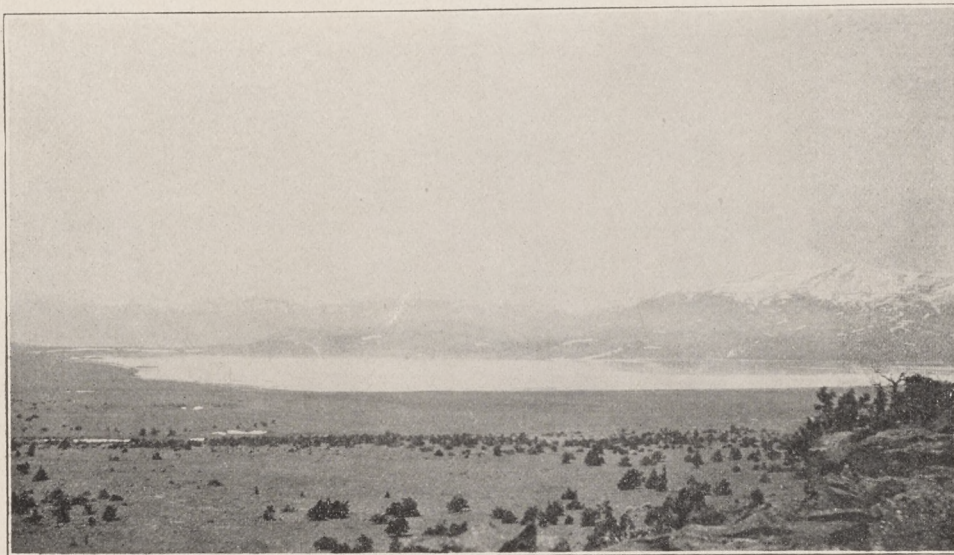
Photo by Matthews.



GARDEN SCENE AT THE PATTERSON RANCH, SURPRISE VALLEY.

length of the valley, and connecting to the south with one of the transcontinental lines. Therefore the company interested certain private parties in the project and a most favorable report having been made within the past month, a railroad for Surprise Valley and the town of Modoc is expected to be shortly under construction. Such a road will develop that part of Modoc County which lies east of the Warner mountains, just as the N. C. & O. R. R. is developing the western half of the county and by developing the natural wealth of Surprise Valley will contribute to the progress and growth also of Alturas.

Surprise Valley and the town of Modoc offer the home-seeker and investor great opportunities because, while a new country in one respect, they lie in thoroughly proven territory, and are being provided with all the facilities for sound development and progress through the efforts of the bankers, merchants, and ranchers of the valley together with those of Provident Investment Co., of 713 H. W. Hellman Building, Los Angeles, to whom all enquirers are directed for particulars of Modoc town lots, of cultivated ranches on the west side of the valley, or relinquishment of lands coming under the irrigation ditches of the east side of the valley.



A PORTION OF COW HEAD LAKE LOOKING FROM EAST TO WEST AT LOWER END.

Modoc

By George H. Ayres.

MODOC is most advantageously situated, being very nearly at the geographical center of Surprise Valley.

Being on the east end of the ridge that separates Upper and Middle Lakes, at an elevation of about 150 feet above the floor of the valley, it commands a magnificent view of the surrounding country. From Modoc one can see Mt. Bidwell, Mt. Warner, Cedar Mountain, and Eagle Peak, the latter rising to a height of approximately 10,000 feet above sea level. He can see the towns of Fort Bidwell, Lake City, Cedarville, and Eagleville, and the beautiful farms and homes lying about and between them. To the north, west and south of Modoc lie upward of 60,000 acres of land that is to be irrigated by the water to be impounded in Cowhead Lake; land that cannot be surpassed by any land on God's Footstool; land that contains in plenty all the plant foods that make the richest of orchard and farm soils.

The "Back to the Farm" movement prompted many home-seekers, the past season, to anticipate the building of the irrigation system that is soon to water this land, and the summer and fall of 1911 witnessed the appropriation of many thousand acres in this veritable farmers paradise, so that the major part of the formerly vacant 60,000 acres surrounding Modoc is settled upon. The other towns of Surprise Valley being from six to twenty miles distant from any of these claims

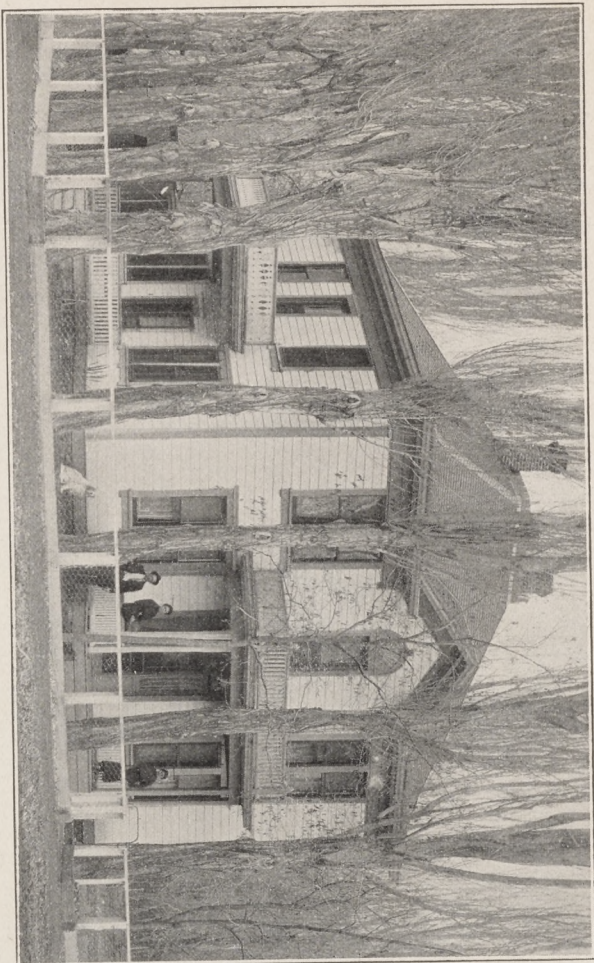
on the east side of the chain of lakes in the floor of the valley, a more convenient, central trading point is a positive necessity; Modoc is at that point.

From Long Valley, 20 miles by the road, come many families to purchase supplies; Modoc is a most convenient point for them.

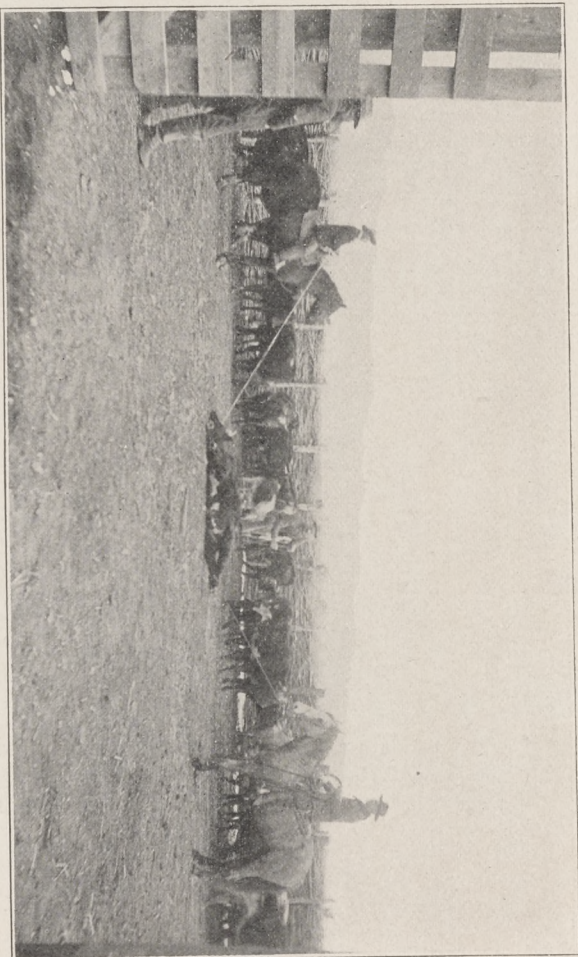
The Provident Investment Company, head quarters in Los Angeles, California, a corporation with heavy financial backing and large connections, has committed itself to the work of development of the latent resources of Surprise Valley. The work includes the irrigation of the 60,000 acres of land on the east side and the building of a broad gauge railroad from Gerlach, on the Western Pacific, through the valley to a point in Southern Warner Valley. Modoc is the logical center of this great scheme.

The Provident Investment Company has built an office and residence in the new town, a large barn for its mule teams that have during the past four months, been engaged in clearing land, and many town lots have been purchased by persons living in the various towns of Modoc County, Lake County, Oregon and Southern California, preparatory to building activity in the early spring of 1912.

In selecting the site for the town particular attention was given to such matters as view, smooth building ground, gravel soil, slope for drainage, reservoir site with plenty of

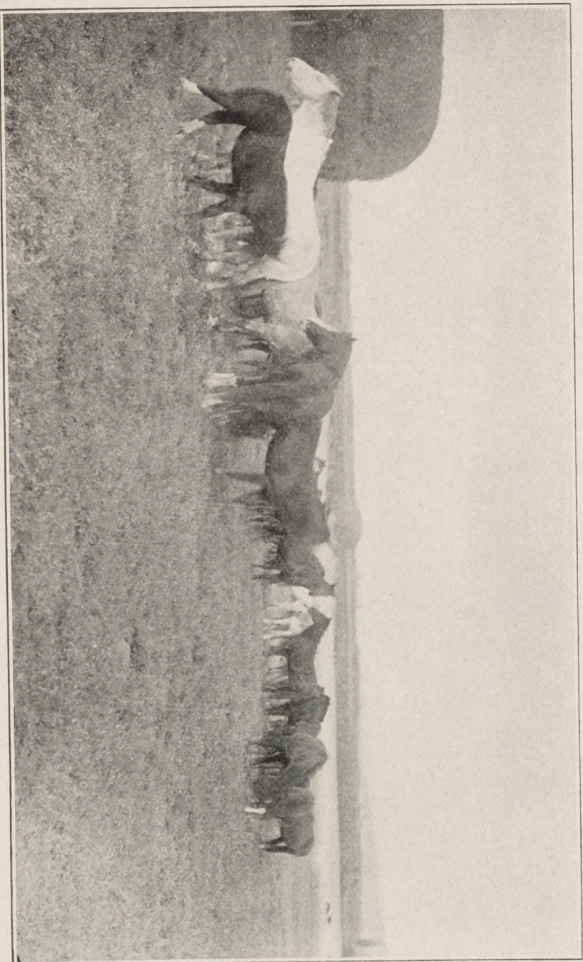


DWELLING OF F. L. ROBERTS, CEDARVILLE.



BRANDING SCENE, MODOC COUNTY.

Photo by Matthews.



HORSES ON TURNER RANCH.

Photo by Matthews.



RYE HIGHER THAN A MAN—TURNER RANCH, SURPRISE VALLEY.

Photo by Matthews.

fall, in fact an ideal spot was selected and the land purchased. In making the survey ground for a central square or park was reserved, the streets and alleys were made good and wide, and in general the matter was given due consideration, so that the usual errors in laying out a town should be avoided, and the town made symmetrical, its streets convenient.

The future of Modoc is assured. The coming season and those seasons immediately following will be marked by great activity. Surprise Valley is entering on an era of development, of advancement, of prosperity that can hardly be realized. Thousands upon thousands of acres of what was in the past the "silent" land will be peopled by earnest men who

are determined to make for themselves and their families profitable farms, beautiful homes. This valley that has produced wonderful things, large fortunes, all without help from outside capital, without transportation facilities, will now come into its own; will with the influx of new blood, the hundreds of thousands of dollars of outside capital that is preparing for it, with the railroad that is a surety, make homes for the hundreds of people where one now lives.

Modoc will in a very short time be a thriving, bustling, hustling, healthy, wealthy business center. The breathing of the "iron horse" will soon be heard the length and breadth of the valley.



HARVESTING WHEAT ON WM. MULLIN'S RANCH, SURPRISE VALLEY.

Photo by Matthews.



TURNER & CLOSSON NURSERY, SURPRISE VALLEY.

Photo by Matthews.

New Mining Camp of High Grade

By N. E. Guyot.

I ASSERT that the gold mining district in the extreme northeast corner of Modoc County, Cal., is the greatest which has been discovered since Cripple Creek. I make this assertion with knowledge of Goldfield, Tonopah, National, and other camps in the adjoining State of Nevada. The reasons for my assertion are partially based upon the fact that in the Modoc mining district we find the same formation that exists in the greatest mining districts of Colorado. We find in this new district a complex series of flows of Andesite, Rhyolite, and other porphyritic rocks, and the entire area is in the most kindly formation for making great gold mines. The practical miner calls this rock porphyry and in this article no attempt will be made to differentiate between the several types of porphyry in the district. The writer is well aware that the first conclusions reached by the first crops of petrologists in a new mining camp are invariably contradicted by succeeding experts.

Reverting to what is now history, I will state that Cripple Creek, Colo., was denounced as a fraud by every expert and experienced man in the State. We know how they were deceived in their own self-sufficient lack of knowledge. In 1891 I established the first assay office in that camp and was the first to initiate advertising efforts to attract capital. Since 1891 I have gained twenty years experience in the field in working various properties, and have visited and examined every district worth while which has since been discovered. In making the emphatic claim that the Modoc district is the greatest since Cripple Creek, I do so with knowledge of mining and mineral formations which warrants me in being emphatic.

This new California gold camp was practically discovered in 1905 in the old fashioned way by a sheep man, but early in the 60's and about coincident with the establishment of the military post at Fort Bidwell a certain frontiersman, named Daniel Hoag, brought to the post specimens of ore which showed free gold, and it is well known that he claimed to have discovered quartz mines of extraordinary richness. He was alone on his prospecting tours and said to be of a secretive turn, so that when he was killed by the Indians all interest in the reported gold discoveries lapsed until the summer of 1905, when the Hoag mining district was discovered by Peter Lorenzen. The subsequent rush of ranchmen and cattlemen into the district, the location of claims, the formation of local stock companies and the usual crude development which takes place in all new mining districts are well known. It is only now that the camp is receiving the attention which it deserves as, during the past three years many mining men have examined the district, and it is their unanimous opinion that no man who understands the business could condemn the camp, but that on the contrary, it possesses characteristics which indicate that it will not only equal Cripple Creek, but, taking into consideration the tremendous porphyry dikes which project hundreds of feet above the surface, the remarkable extent and uniform value of the ore in two of these dikes, and the extraordinary richness and strength of several veins which have been discovered, it is likely to exceed in importance the Cripple Creek mining district itself.

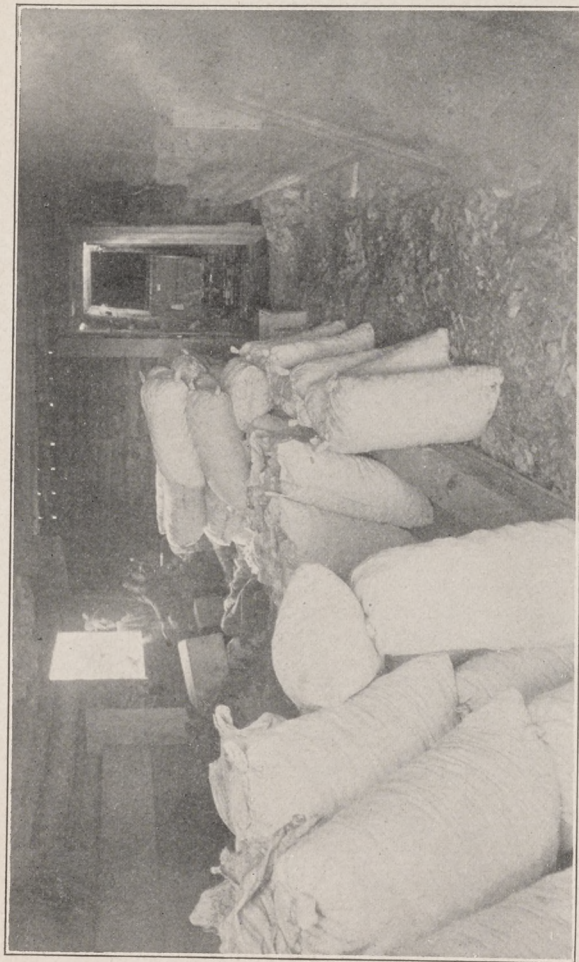
The camp is in the extreme Northeast corner of California and extends into the State of Oregon, while on the East the Nevada line is distant only seven miles. Geographically the camp belongs to Nevada, geologically it is like dropping

a section of the Rocky Mountains of Colorado down into California, equipping it with running streams, numerous springs of pure water, several little lakes in the heart of the district and covering the camp with an unusually liberal growth of pine timber of different varieties sufficient for mining purposes for many years, and rounding out the advantages of such resources with the typical Rocky Mountain climate. The conditions are distinctly favorable for attracting the genuine Rocky Mountain miners who cannot reconcile themselves to the milder climates of the mining districts west of the Sierras. It is a camp which particularly appeals to energetic men. Commercially the camp belongs to Reno, just as Denver controls the great mining districts of Colorado.

The district is reached by a narrow gauge railroad. The Nevada, California & Oregon, running from Reno to Lakeview, Oregon, via Alturas, which is the County seat of the county and where filings are also made for transmission to the United States Land Office at Susanville. The railroad runs through New Pine Creek, on the Oregon line, eight miles west from the center of the district, and the camp is thus easily reached from Reno, the total distance being about 225 miles. The railroad rates guarantee to shippers a tariff about equal to the Goldfield charge on smelting ore shipped to Salt Lake smelters. East from the district is Surprise Valley, an agricultural area of unusual fertility which for over fifty years has been the home of a considerable population. In this valley are produced all kinds of feed and grain for horses and cattle and also various fruits. It is also the center and supply point for large cattle and sheep ranches. At the present time the Provident Investment Co. of Los Angeles, has under construction an irrigating ditch which will bring under cultivation an additional area of 70,000 acres, capable of producing almost anything which grows in a temperate climate. West from the mining district lies the Goose Lake country, also a vast tract producing the same character of products as the Surprise Valley, but having the advantage of the narrow gauge railroad via Alturas, which is the principal supply point and commercial center of this valley. The Warner range of mountains, in which the mining district is located, is a chain extending for perhaps 150 miles and appears to be quite distinct from the Sierras, and the formation is essentially of a porphyry character.

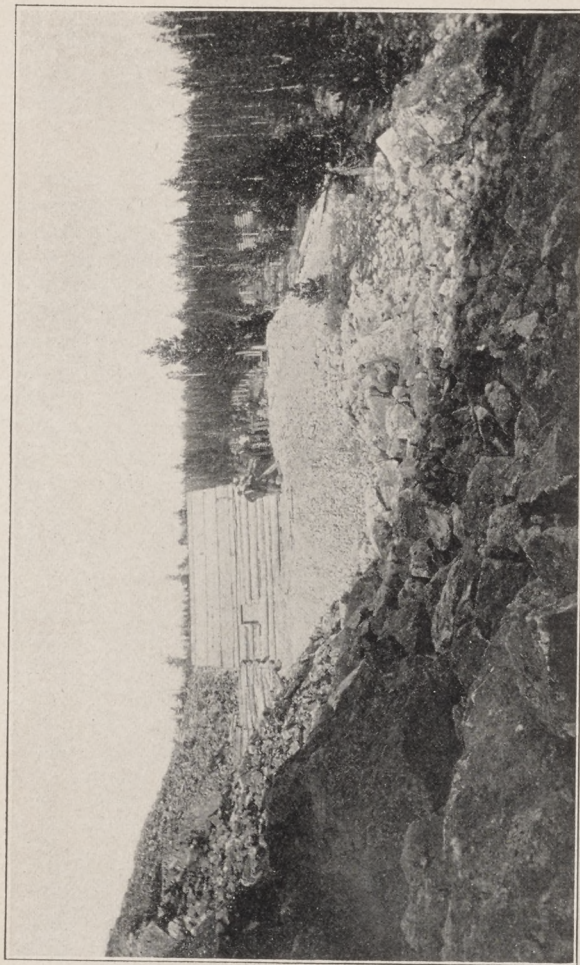
The whole range is covered with a heavy growth of timber and the agricultural valleys as well as the mining district draw their supplies of sawed lumber from these forests at a cost not exceeding \$25.00 per thousand delivered. A scrutiny of the economical resources attaching to the Modoc or Mt. Bidwell mining district, discloses the fact that mining operations can be carried on more cheaply here than in any other camp in the United States.

The topography lends itself to the construction of wagon roads and railroads at an average expense, and every mine in the district can be reached by automobile after the completion of branch roads from the main thoroughfares. Mr. Charles Kirby Fox, Chief Engineer of the irrigation enterprise in the Surprise Valley, and a thoroughly competent man, has stated that a standard gauge railroad could be constructed from the town of Fort Bidwell, through the mining district and connecting with the narrow gauge railroad at New Pine Creek, with not over two per cent grade. On the other hand the N. C. O. R. R. could throw a spur from New Pine Creek over the range to Fort Bidwell at an expense of



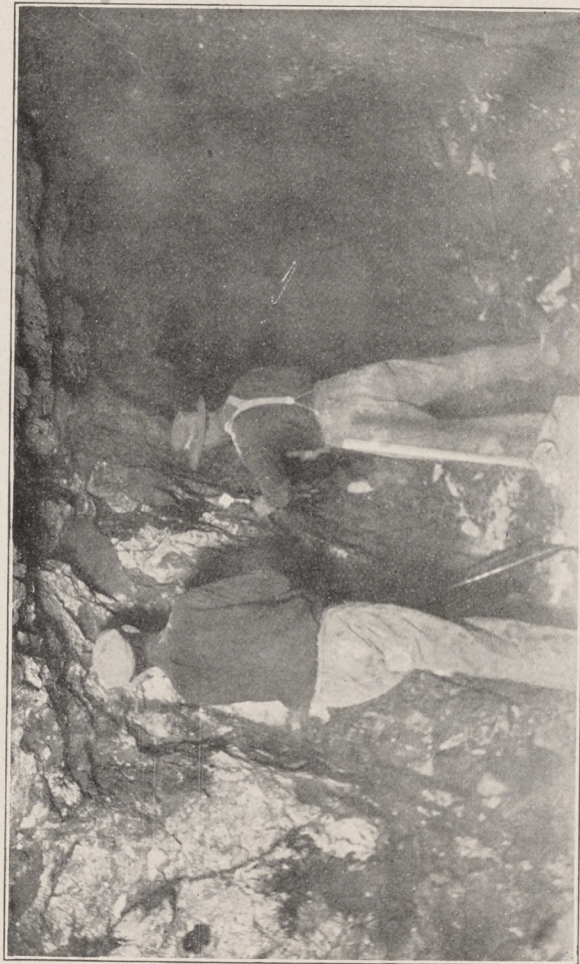
\$1,000.00 ORE—SUNSHINE MINE.

Photo by Matthews.



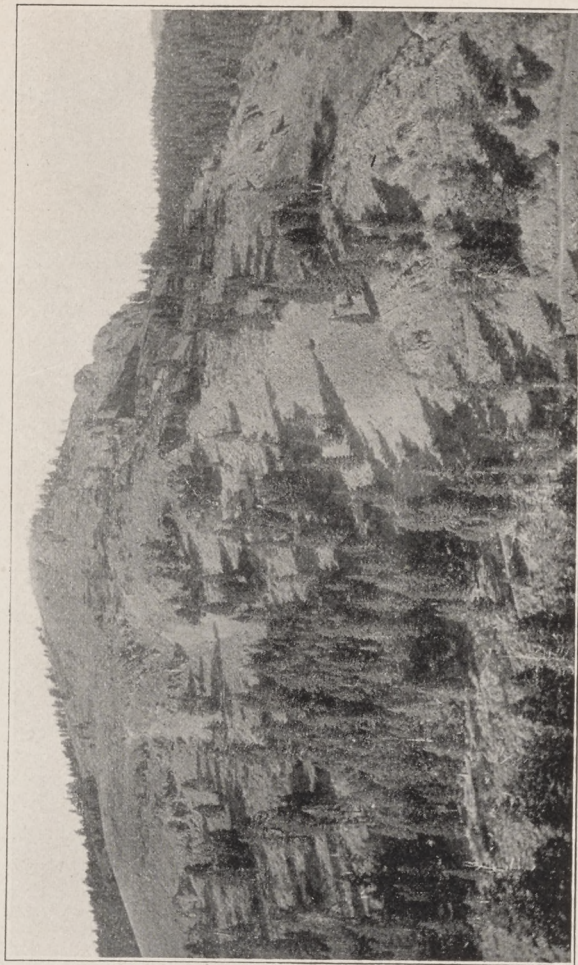
SUNSHINE MINE.

Photo by Matthews.



IN SUGAR PINE TUNNEL.

Photo by Matthews.



DISCOVERY HILL.

Photo by Matthews.

not over half a million of dollars and thus bring Surprise Valley into immediate railroad communication with Reno and connecting with the great railroads running to San Francisco and the east. I predict that within two years the new gold mining district will have a railroad running to its mines and I will remind the skeptical that twenty years ago I made the same prediction regarding Cripple Creek and was laughed at, but within seven years Cripple Creek had three railroads.

The extent of the mining district appears to be unusually large and in view of the fact that smelting ore, and by that I mean ore that would pay to ship to the smelters near Salt Lake, has been discovered on Mt. Bidwell within a few miles of the town of Fort Bidwell, and that a chain of properties has been opened up to within three miles of New Pine Creek, Oregon, it is evident that the district is very extensive. It appears to be fully four miles long by two and a half miles wide. This is no one mine camp nor is it a one zone camp, for, on the contrary, not less than twenty properties are now developed and these properties are widely separated and extend over a great area. Considering the grade and value of the ore now developed to considerable depth in well defined veins with well defined lines of demarcation between the ore itself and the enclosing country rock a dozen properties have all the distinguishing characteristics of great mines.

The whole district is practically an island of porphyry, surrounded by the remains of an immense field of basaltic lava. There appears to be a much metamorphosed basalt enclosing the porphyry. In my opinion developments will show with depth that the porphyry extends easterly and westerly under the basalt. At the present time development shows veins extending from the porphyry into the basalt. There are several properties with from 8 to 20 inches of smelting ore developed in the metamorphosed basalt.

Beginning on the southerly end of the district with the first discovery made we find the property of the Bidwell Discovery Gold Mining Co., which is the ground in which gold was found by Lorenzen in 1905 on the Oregon & California lode claims. For a distance of about 200 feet a magnificent quartz vein crops above the surface to an elevation of fully 50 feet and appears to be on a contact between a great porphyry dike and basalt. The richest ore at surface is white quartz streaked faintly with iron oxides and selected samples of generous size taken along this outcrop have returned results of over \$200.00 in gold per ton, with perhaps an ounce of silver. This boldly cropping vein has the characteristics of similar veins in the San Juan district of Colorado, and the ore, as is the case all over the district, is free milling. The vein on the Discovery property dips at an angle of about 16 degrees westerly and a considerable depression exists between the hard quartz which resisted erosion and the porphyry foot wall itself, but there are easily three feet of ore at surface on a shoot approximately 200 feet long, which sampling shows will average from \$12.00 to \$14.00 per ton, and there is a considerable amount of the richest quartz, which as stated will run over \$200.00 per ton in gold. Below this original discovery the owners of the property sank a shaft about 30 feet deep on another vein and from this they have taken about a half car load of white quartz which averages nearly \$40 per ton in gold. The meager development which has been done discloses evidence of a great mine, as it is my opinion that the tremendous porphyry dike which makes to the east of this vein is itself a large body of low grade milling ore.

Adjoining the property of the Discovery Co., and down the hill, lies the North Star, the second mine discovered in the district. In this property also is found a quartz vein cropping prominently above the surface with many of the character-

istics of the Discovery lode. A tunnel cut the North Star vein at moderate depth and the winz sunk in the ore went down on 8 inches of quartz running over \$3.00 per ton in gold, with a little silver. This quartz in the North Star is of a peculiar character, with a faint greenish tinge, suggesting chlorite, and this green ore appears to be the characteristic ore of the camp. It is distinctly different in appearance from any other ore the writer has ever seen and is highly (silicious). The concentrates from this so called green ore runs high in gold. This brings us to the question as to what will constitute the base of the ores in this district. I do not know nor does any one else, for sufficient depth has not been attained, neither have there been any analyses made on the ores. The few concentrates made in the stamp mills of the district in a crude fashion do not show the presence of much iron, but I believe there exists in the ore some element as yet unrecognized. It may be Bismuth, it may be Tellurium, it remains to be proven. There is no copper in the district and but little lime in the ore, everything so far being practically clean silica.

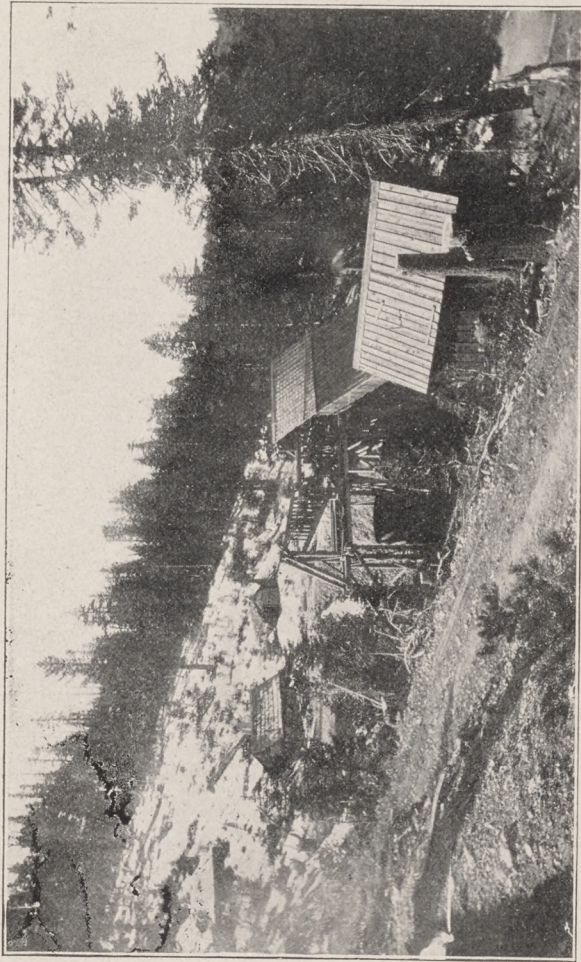
I am of the opinion that tellurides will be found with depth.

Up the hill from the Discovery property we find the Sunset mine. Here in a large open cut and in a surface tunnel are exposed probably a thousand tons of ore running from \$5.00 to \$500.00 per ton in gold. Samples taken from great masses of oxidized ore returned better than \$31.00 per ton, and numerous assays on what appears to be a primary or unoxidized ore, show results running very high in gold. This unoxidized ore shows but little sulphides, but resembles in its general make-up the blue lime of Aspen, Colo., brecciated and mineralized. The surface indications at the Sunset are simply immense. It is evident that the ore shoot has been uncovered in the open cut referred to, but no shaft has been sunk on the same. The owners of this property ran a tunnel about 300 feet, projected to cut the mineral below, and when last seen by the writer it appeared to be nearing the point where the ore shoot should be encountered at a depth of about 200 feet. The vein forms at the contact of porphyry and basalt, and judging from the amount of ore disclosed in the open cut and which is clearly in place, this property will be one of the score already developed which will take rank as one of the great mines of the district.

Further up the same hill and near its apex is the Cliff Mine. The greatest action in the hill appears to have taken place here and shows a contact vein in porphyry, from which some high values have been taken. Little development has been accomplished on this property and the whole area is strewn with float and country rock seamed with quartz which undoubtedly have their origin in Cliff ground.

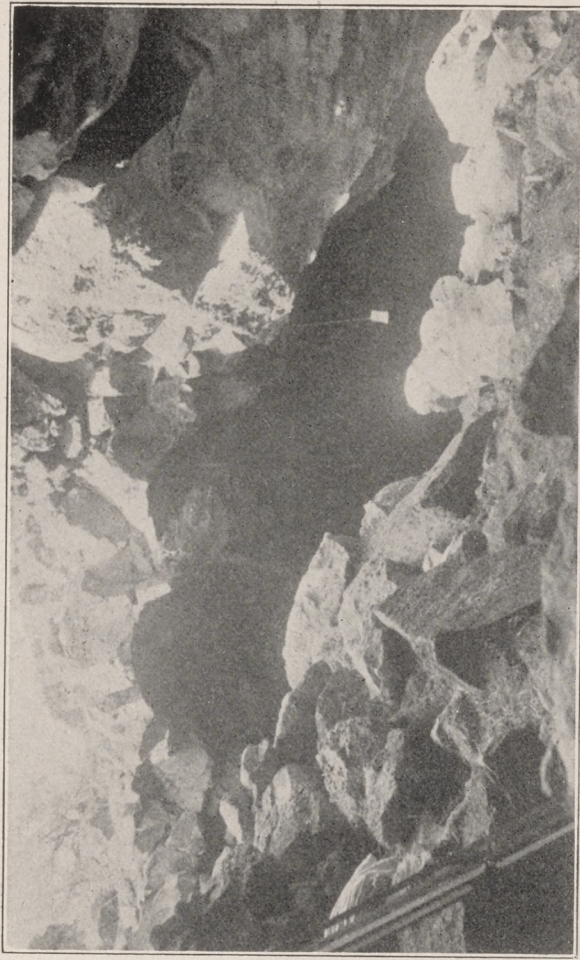
Discovery Hill as the scene of the original find, is an exceedingly interesting area. It is unusual to find the same number of boldly cropping veins in the same area. There is reason to believe that this hill will prove to be another Battle Mountain.

A mile below Discovery Hill towards Fort Bidwell, are groups of claims, both lode and placer, owned by O'Connor, Fox, Baty and others. The best mill sites in the district, with the greatest amount of running water, probably sufficient to run 500 stamps, are found here. In Sunset Gulch, at the base of Discovery Hill, there is a Lane type Chilean mill completely equipped and capable of handling from 30 to 40 tons of ore per day. This mill is controlled by the owners of the Sunset mine and before now is undoubtedly at work on their ore. The main wagon road from Fort Bidwell passes up West Bidwell Creek through the Discovery and North Star properties, to the property of the Consolidated Company and connects there with the wagon road to Pine Creek, hav-



CONSOLIDATED MILL.

Photo by Matthews.



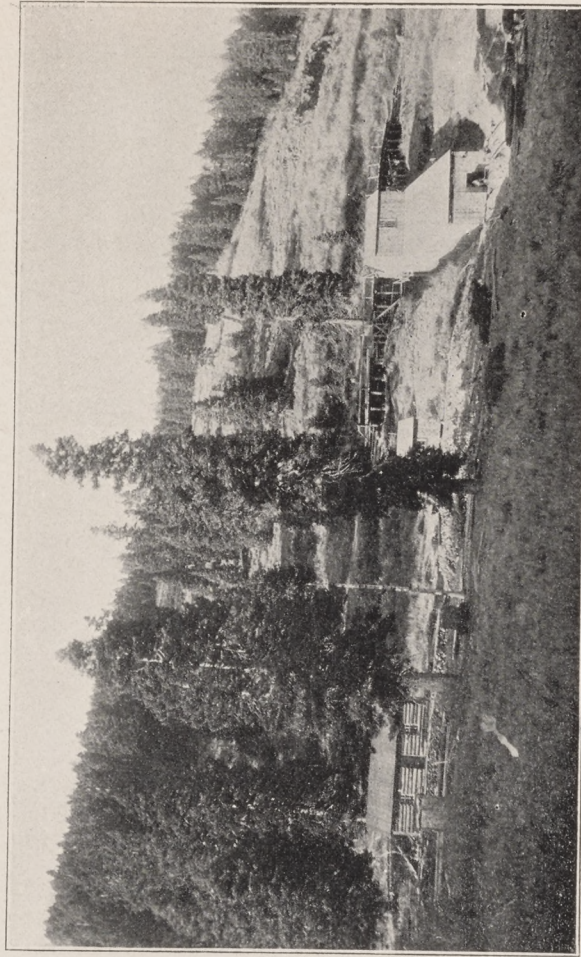
CAPT. JACKS' STRONGHOLD.

Photo by Reisen.



OUT CROP, BIG FOUR MINE.

Photo by Matthews.



CUSTOM MILL.

Photo by Matthews.

ing a total length of perhaps 20 miles, with reasonable grades. There is also a road which leaves the main road at O'Connor's and runs easterly along the base of Mt. Bidwell, to the Alturas Big Four, Sunshine and Modoc Mines Co. property, making practically a belt line around the district, from which spurs can be run to any location. The O'Connor, Baty, and Fox properties show plenty of good indications, but sufficient development has not been accomplished upon which to base an opinion, although the formation is distinctly favorable and similar to that in the center of the district.

Directly opposite Discovery Hill is Mt. Vida which is practically owned by the Mt. Vida Corporation. This is a distinct area of porphyry cut by latter intrusive dikes of Rhyolite, making several contact veins, one of which is from 20 to 30 feet wide, and shows values from \$2.00 to \$30.00 per ton in gold. A remnant of the old basaltic formation still occupies the area between Discovery Hill and Mt. Vida and is probably an immense fragment below which will be found the porphyry formation in place. Not much development has been accomplished on the Mt. Vida properties to date, but they offer a good field for mining men who wish to lease and bond.

Directly north from Discovery Hill and practically on the apex is the group of claims owned by the Ft. Bidwell Consolidated Gold Mining Co., one of the earliest corporations operating in the district and which has accomplished more in the way of development and production than all the other mines in the district. The property of this company is practically all in the porphyry and there appears to be a complex series of contact veins in their ground. The Sugar Pine lode is developed by a tunnel run on a contact vein for a distance of 400 feet and an ore shoot several hundred feet in length has been disclosed by trenching and in surface tunnels. The ore is beautifully oxidized and carries some iron. It is practically a free milling product. At a depth of about 200 feet below the surface they are breaking four feet of ore at the end of the tunnel which shoot is known to extend to the surface and will average over \$18.00 per ton in gold. In the case of this mine as with all others in the district, the writer has taken his own samples in miner fashion, in ample quantities, so that the values he quotes are results which he himself has watched from the mine to the assayers' balances.

The consolidated people have constructed a wire tram way from the Sugar Pine lode over the mountain, a distance of half a mile, to their ten-stamp mill on the west side of the mountain on the Mountain View lode. The ore is transported by this tram to the stamp mill which has been in operation for the last six months and in which they are crushing from 28 to 40 tons per day, yielding about 60 per cent of the values, which as stated run not less than \$18.00 per ton in gold with some exceedingly rich streaks of Talc, which is also sent through the mill. The stamp mill is not equipped with concentrators and the tailings all run into a sump which it is intended to treat later by cyanide.

The Mountain View property is in Basalt and some of the richest ore in the district has been taken from this mine for the past four years. The ore was discovered at the surface and has been exploited to a depth of about 150 feet by cross cut tunnel and winzes. On the 150 foot level the vein appeared to be in place but exceedingly irregular and patchy. The best showing on this level consists of about 8 inches of the characteristic greenish quartz of the district and my averages showed better than \$147.00 per ton in gold with a little silver. In the Mountain View, as in most of the other properties in the district, extensive crystallization has taken place, and groups of beautiful crystals, ranging in size from those distinguishable only under the glass to others several inches

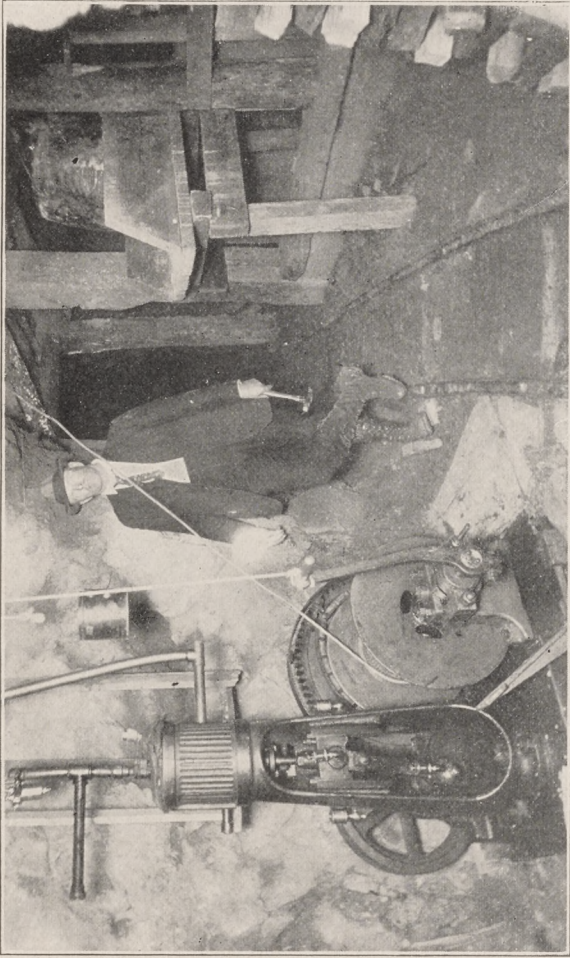
in length, are found. It is likely that the best ore of the district will continue to be found with such crystallization. A small hoist has been installed in the tunnel on the Mountain View and a winze is being sunk as nearly as possible on the ore, but it is still a problem whether the vein is faulted or whether the ore merely follows an unusually eccentric course along the complicated fracturing of the formation.

The camp of the Consolidated Co. is located near the stamp mill and they have been working a force of about 30 men for the past six months, having recently added five stamps to their equipment. They have a number of good buildings and have built their own wagon road to connect with the roads to Pine Creek and Fort Bidwell. Fully \$100,000 has been expended in developing this property and regardless of the high grade ore found in the Mountain View, the showing in the Sugar Pine entitles the property to be considered in the mine class. Here as elsewhere in the district are ample supplies of water and timber.

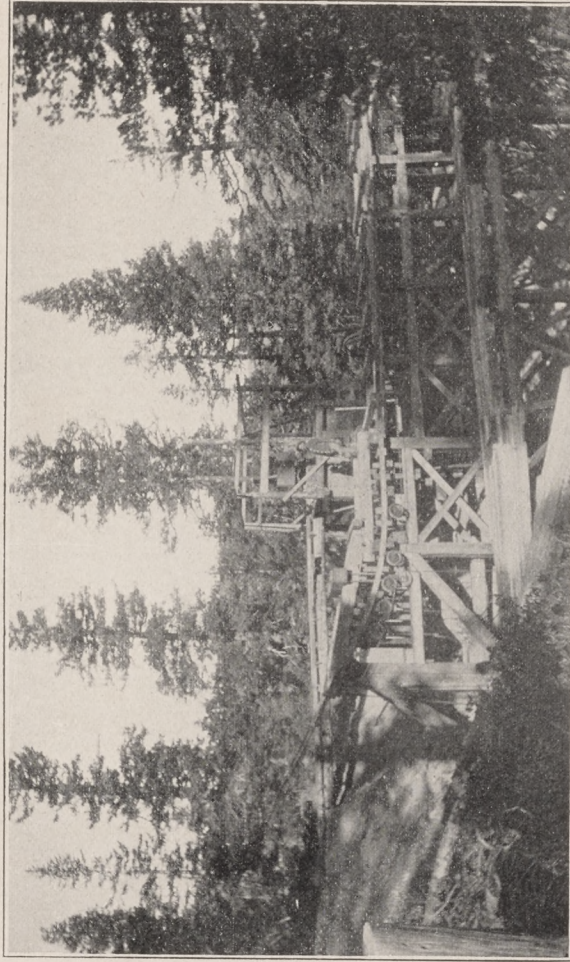
Near the Consolidated Mine is the Gold Peak, and Eugene vein, running easterly and westerly. In the Gold Peak, which is right in one of the characteristic tremendous rock piles of the district, a shaft has been sunk to a depth of 60 feet which is all in ore running from \$1.00 to \$12.00 per ton in gold. The rock is well stained with oxidized iron and the workings appear to be exactly in the junction of several veins or a chimney of ore of unusual dimensions. The Gold Peak and the Eugene properties are exceedingly interesting. Great masses of quartz on the surface have encouraged the owners to proceed with the development in so far as their means will allow. These properties can be leased and bonded, as indeed is the case with a number of the choicest locations in the camp, upon reasonable terms. In this connection I will state that undoubtedly one-half of the district is open for location as the original locators of the district have in a number of cases failed to comply with the law of annual assessment and their claims have reverted to public domain. Miners who have only a grub stake may go into the Modoc mining district with the assurance that the claim-hog has no standing in the camp, and for the benefit of the Rocky Mountain boys I will state that California laws prohibit any claim owner who fails to do his annual assessment work, from directly or indirectly relocating that ground for a period of three years from the date of forfeiture.

In mining parlance there is a chance for a man to make a stake in the new camp "on a shoestring," provided he is a worker and is not in the coffee cooler class. No lead pencil assessments have been or will be tolerated in the Modoc mining district. Already there are sufficient mining men in the camp who understand the mining game and who appreciate the value of property who will not hesitate to relocate any ground which is open for re-location.

North from the Gold Peak property is an extensive ridge occupied chiefly by the Alturas Gold Mining Co. This is all in the porphyry and is flanked on the west by Yellow Mountain, so called because it is well stained with yellow oxides of iron or some other mineral. The Alturas Co. have sunk a shaft to a depth of about 100 feet on a porphyry dike and have done some cross-cutting and drifting, on a number of small streaks of rich ore. It would be hard to state what the average value of their product is as the results run from \$5.00 to \$200.00 per ton. It is not yet proven just what they are working on as they may be in a dike which is all ore of different grades, since everything shows some value, from \$2.00 up. Some iron sulphides have been found in this property, but no analysis have been made and the bulk of what they hoist is oxidized ore. The Alturas Company, like the Consolidated, operates its own assay office and has



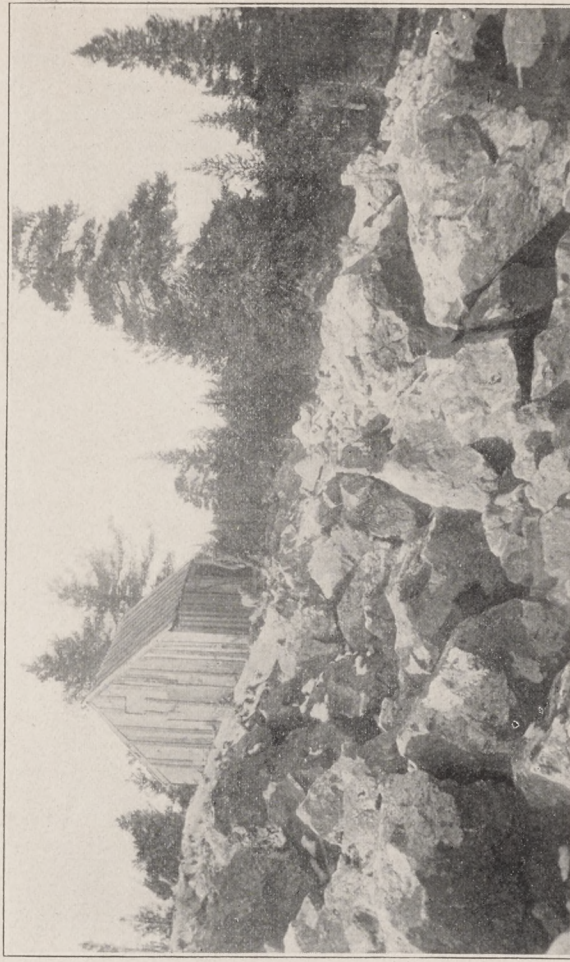
HOIST AND TUNNEL—CONSOLIDATED MINE. *Photo by Matthews.*



EAST END OF CONSOLIDATED TRAM. *Photo by Matthews.*



BIG FOUR MILL. *Photo by Matthews.*



SHAFT HOUSE—MODOC MINE. *Photo by Matthews.*

been conducted on a business basis in a conservative fashion. The intention is to continue development on the best lines possible.

Yellow Mountain is a prominent peak which rises to a height nearly equal to that of Mt. Bidwell, the latter, according to government survey, being 8552 feet above sea level. The average elevation of the entire camp is about 8000 feet and it is proper to note here that the summers are longer and the climate much milder than at Aspen, Creeds, Leadville or Cripple Creek in the Rocky Mountains, though the snow fall is heavy and miners who are accustomed to snowy countries are needed. Returning to Yellow Mountain, the west slope of which appears to have sheared sharply and is covered with an immense amount of broken down country rock and quartz, we find that the formation appears to be in place. Some of the richest float in the district has been found on Yellow Mountain and one Oakland Company is operating under lease and bond on the Coomb's property which appears to be the most promising in that vicinity. The usual assays running from low to very high in gold have been had repeatedly.

The Big Four group of mines, embracing about 100 acres, lies northerly from Yellow Mountain, distinctly in the great porphyry belt. The property is owned partially by a stock company known as the Big Four Gold Mining Co., and partially by individuals, and for several years has been worked in an irregular fashion by lessees under trying circumstances. The development accomplished is not what it might have been nor have the lessees idled. J. P. Bassler has persistently clung to this property and largely through his efforts may be attributed what has been accomplished. The most striking mineral deposit in the district is located in the Big Four ground. This is what appears to have been originally a Rhyolite dike which has been changed to quartz. The rock exposed is undoubtedly a product containing not less than 90 per cent silica, and this mass of ore is as nearly free milling as any ore can be. The dike projects to an elevation of at least 150 feet above the surface, and is 100 feet wide and of unknown length. I believe the extension of this great ledge of ore is found in the Evening Star and Mountain Sheep properties easterly from the Big Four. Quoting from a report made by Norman Stines, Berkeley graduate, and now in charge of extensive mines in Russia, who was in this district two years ago and examined the camp thoroughly for six months, I find the entire mass of rock according to his sampling averages \$4.79 in gold and is free milling. The amount of ore exposed is probably 100,000 tons, and the sampling referred to necessarily was in the nature of grab samples shot from many parts of the dike. The writer of his own knowledge knows that this mass of rock is ore, that everything pans well, that assays running from \$2.00 to \$60.00 per ton have repeatedly been had and that near it and in it in shallow tunnels and shafts are veins which contain from 12 to 15 inches of ore averaging better than \$40.00 per ton and evidently making into the dike itself or on the contact of the dike with the older Andesite breccia. A shaft has been sunk on the principal vein in this property, so far discovered, to a depth of about 100 feet and drifts run north and south, on ore which could be shipped at a profit to the Salt Lake smelter, there being from 12 to 15 inches of quartz with considerable rich Talc. This vein averages over \$40.00 per ton gold. Recent prospecting in this shaft and in the ledge by crosscutting and otherwise, discloses the fact that as in nearly every camp, what had been left standing as wall rock on being shot into proved to be ore of a higher grade. A five stamp mill has recently been completed on this property about 100 yards from the ledge and by the time this article

is in print it will be in operation in charge of a skilled mill man. The Big Four property presents an interesting problem and whether it will be developed into one of the great low grade mines of the United States solely, or whether it will also be a shipper of high grade ore as a by-product as in the case of the Goldfield Consolidated, remains to be seen. The Big Four is easily the most impressive sight in the district and even if nothing but this property had been discovered the mining man who would fail to be impressed with the possibilities of a district containing such a property would be beyond reason. I consider it merely a question of capable management, and of course, the expenditure of the capital required to properly equip such a mine as the Big Four, to bring it in as a great property. It is certain that no mining man would undertake to operate the mine until the ownership has been concentrated in one company.

Near the Big Four and East of it is the Mountain Sheep, which as stated, I believe to be on an extension of the Big Four lode or ledge. This property is owned by McCleary, Schauer, Jamison and others, and has the distinction of being the incentive for the perpetration of the first lawsuit in the district, the same ground being claimed by Broddus & Dunnivan. The latter appears to have lost the suit, but I am told that the matter is not definitely closed, since the Mountain Sheep shows a large amount of ore developed by superficial shafts and tunnels and is apparently well worth fighting for. Assays on the quartz from this property have run high and the cropings are of such magnitude that it is safe to predict that this mine will also take its place as one of the big ones of the district.

Further east on this same mineralized belt or zone is the Evening Star or Klondike property, where a large amount of quartz crops to the surface and contains good values. A little one-stamp mill was run on rock out of the workings on this property and it is said the ore ran from \$40 to \$60 per ton. South from the Big Four is the Quartzite lode. It presents some of the characteristics of the Big Four cropping, but is rather heavily filled with red and yellow oxides of iron or some other mineral, and like the Big Four it pans freely and is a free milling product. A little cinnabar has been detected in the ore hoisted from the 30-foot shaft sunk in a big dike which appears to form the mineral center in this ground. The Quartzite property, the Mountain Sheep, the Evening Star, and Klondike, present opportunities for mining men to take same under lease and bond with the prospect that they may develop into important mines.

South from the Klondike property is the claim owned by James Fee, from which he has taken ore near the surface showing peculiar sulphides, probably Marcasite, and containing values from \$12 to \$20 per ton in gold and from six to twelve ounces in silver. This property is also in the porphyry belt and there has not been a great deal of development accomplished.

About half a mile north of the Big Four property is the preëminently high grade mine of the district, the Sunshine, owned by Laughlin and Schauer, both Colorado men, who have been in the district for several years. It is proper to mention here that Chas. Laughlin is undoubtedly one of the best prospectors in the country, and the writer considers that he is entitled to the credit of making more important discoveries in the district than any other man. No one but Laughlin would have had the nerve to go against those tremendous rock piles which are the characteristic of the district and open in them within twenty feet of the surface the richest veins in the camp, in place, with well defined walls and which give promise of developing into several of the

great high grade mines of the United States. It involved a tremendous amount of manual labor on his part and an intuition as to locality of the ore shoots, which is almost marvelous. The Sunshine property was discovered by him and in the new shaft now being sunk he disclosed within ten feet of the surface an ore shoot with not less than eight inches of beautiful quartz which will average not less than \$1,000 per ton, and accompanying which is a large amount of red talc which would assay from \$10,000 to \$20,000 per ton. As a panning proposition it is the richest stuff the writer has ever seen. The Sunshine is all in the porphyry on a Rhyolite contact, and the owners have sacked and are shipping high grade ore to the smelters. It should not run less than \$1,000 per ton in gold and the ore is unique also in the respect that it carries from forty to sixty ounces of silver per ton. The Sunshine ought to make a great high grade mine and I believe it will. Before the discovery of this rich ore shoot last August, the owners had run a tunnel about 125 feet on the vein which Laughlin originally discovered in this property and an upraise of about seventy-five feet made to the surface. In these workings there was four inches of ore which averaged \$188 per ton in gold and over forty ounces of silver, and presented a flattering prospect for developing into a good mine. The surface of the Sunshine is covered with large masses of rich float and it is thought a great north and south vein runs through this property, cross-cutting the vein already discovered. It is proper in this connection to note the fact that it is the general opinion in the district that a great vein will be discovered running in a northerly and southerly direction from the Discovery property up into the School section owned by the Modoc Mines Co. and following the high ridge which forms the divide of the district. This opinion is being constantly strengthened by the discovery of float of a character dissimilar to the ore found in the easterly and westerly veins.

Directly west of and below the Last Dollar are found Cave and Lily Lakes, two good sized ponds which appear to be filled with water which drains from the great plateau or mesa that extends from the Alturas mine and includes the Sunshine and School section properties of the Modoc Mines Co. These little lakes will furnish ample water supply for several mills.

The most northerly property in the district and immediately adjoining the Sunshine, consists of the 259 acres of patented ground owned by the Modoc Mines Co., and which is heavily covered with timber. This ground, like the Sunshine and

Last Dollar, is covered with a large amount of float, the same being a highly crystallized quartz from which many high assays in gold have been obtained. On this ground are also several of those peculiar rock piles which cover the best veins in the camp, and in one of these rock piles Laughlin opened a vein which has been developed to a depth of about thirty-five feet by a shaft. The vein is three feet wide and there are eighteen inches of ore which averages between \$40 and \$50 per ton, although results up to \$121 per ton have repeatedly been obtained. This vein is on a porphyry contact, Rhyolite and Andesite, and the ore is accompanied by a considerable amount of talc which runs very high. A 20 H. P. hoist and equipment sufficient to sink the shaft 500 feet has been shipped to this property and ample capital secured for the thorough development of the mine. A force of men will be maintained at the mine constantly. A peculiar feature of this School section property is what is locally termed the "brickbat" ore, found as float. It resembles in color, grain and general appearance, broken brick, and is exceedingly rich in gold. It never runs less than \$200 per ton and sometimes up into the thousands. The vein from which this ore is derived has not yet been discovered, but it is Laughlin's opinion that it originates in the flat ground owned by the Modoc Mines Co. and will eventually be opened up in their property.

At some distance west from the shaft on this property the so-called basalt rim rock of the district is found. As hitherto stated it is a basalt almost identical in appearance and character with the Cripple Creek basalt which has not been decomposed. The writer has his opinion regarding the origin of this "brickbat" ore and thinks it comes from the contact of porphyry with basalt, as the ore is of the same grain and makeup as the basalt.

The Modoc Mines Co. will plat a town on the southern part of its ground and establish a post office.

The mine is managed by J. F. Cutler, well known in Oregon, Washington and British Columbia in connection with important mining enterprises for the past twenty-five years.

As the last word, the writer will state that he is thoroughly convinced that the long period of dullness in the business of mining precious metals is about to end and that coincident with the bringing in of this new and great gold district the public attention is again turning to the mines. The mining fraternity will do well to seize this last and best opportunity to become identified with a great new gold camp and to make a good homestake.



SUMMIT OF MT. BIDWELL FROM THE MINES. Photo by Matthews.



PRIZE HOGS FROM LUKE MULKEY'S RANCH, DAVIS CREEK.
Photo by Reisen.



MILLET IN J. D. WATSON'S GARDEN, SURPRISE VALLEY.
Photo by Matthews.



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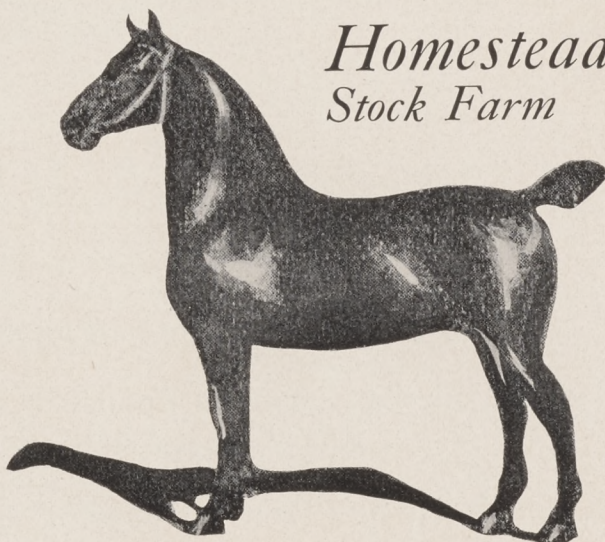
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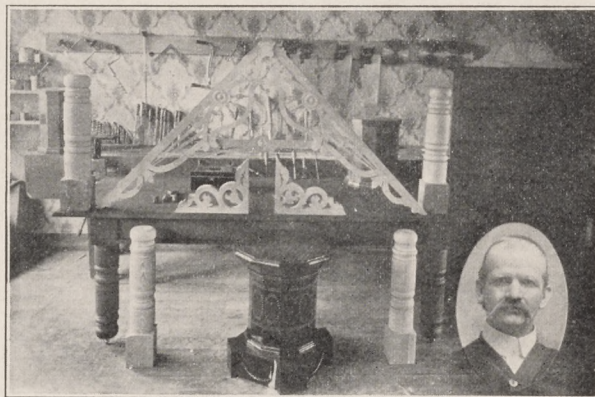
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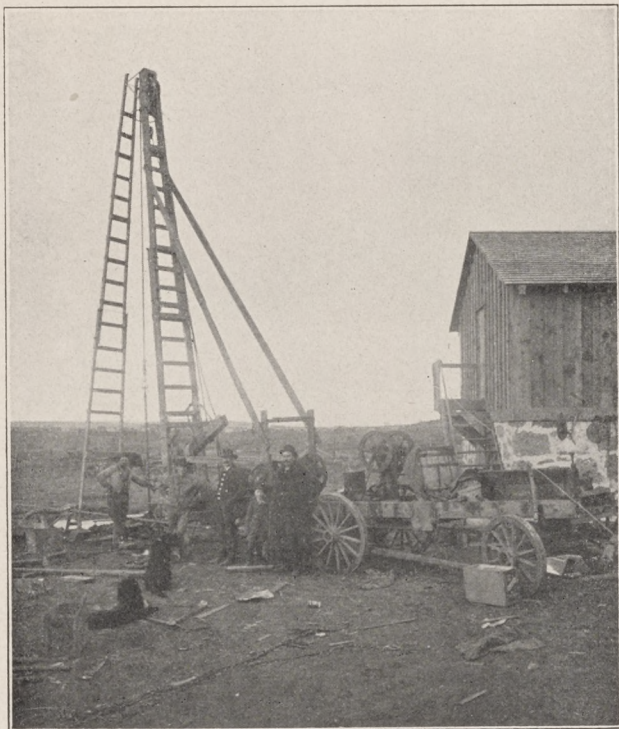
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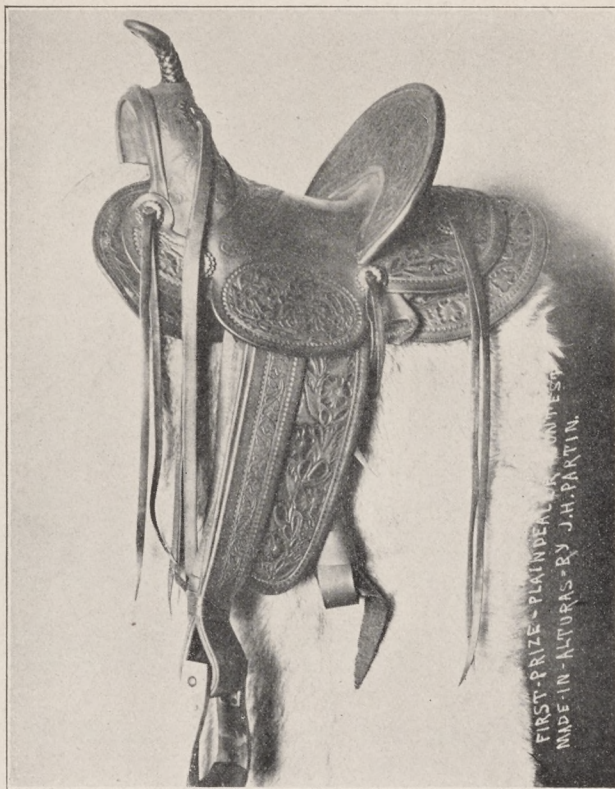
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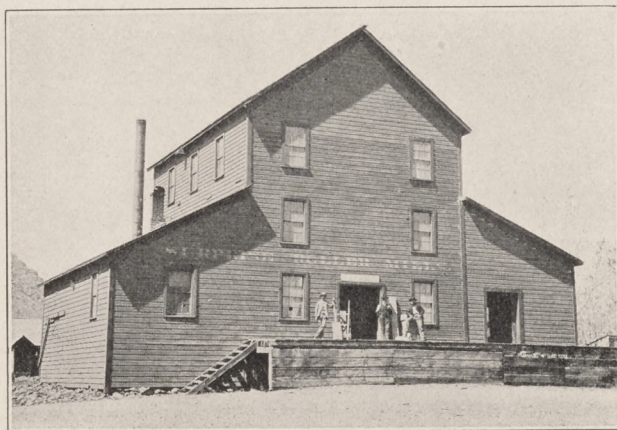
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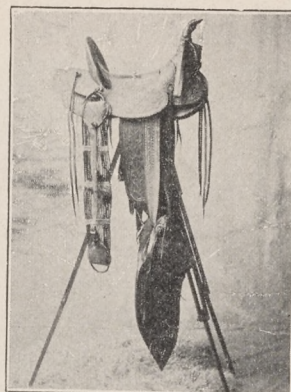
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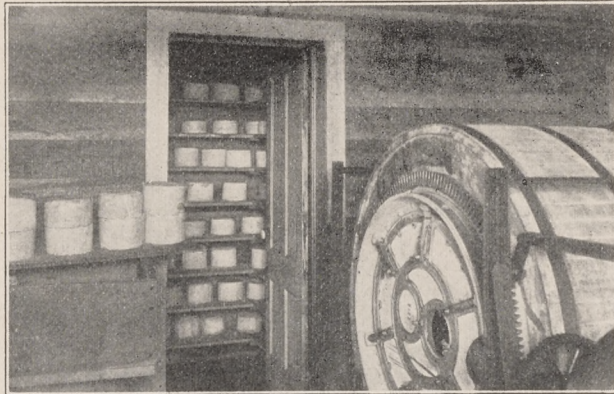
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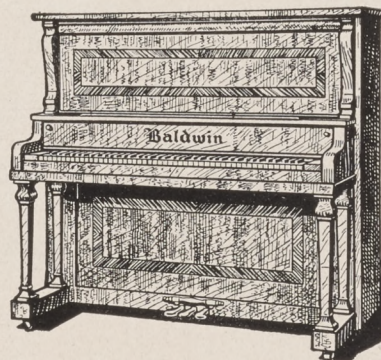
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BARN AND FINE STOCK ON RANCH OF HENRY LORENZ
Photo by Reisen, Alturas

Ranch For Sale.

IN GOUGERNECK, near Lookout, is situated the ranch of Henry Lorenz, consisting of 510 acres, 40 acres of which is beautiful fine timber, 80 acres cultivated to grain, 55 alfalfa, and about 120 acres of good pasture land. The balance is not under cultivation, but is all good land. This ranch is divided into four lots and all with good fences. The improvements consist in part of a dwelling house, three barns, and out-buildings, a small orchard and truck garden. Watermelons and muskmelons do especially well here.

This ranch is for sale. All inquiries to be addressed to

TRAUGH & CHASE REALTY CO.
ADIN, CAL.



HOUSE ON RANCH OF J. H. BOWERS, ALTURAS

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One of the Best Stock Ranches
in Modoc County.

Fifteen hundred and sixty acres, all fenced and cross fenced. Finely watered by never-failing stream. Private water power. Electric-light plant for lighting house and other buildings and power for all other purposes. Hot and cold water in the house. Orchard and garden large enough for all domestic purposes. Up-to-date machinery and farm implements. Natural grass meadow lands cut 350 to 400 tons of hay annually. Fine cattle range surrounding place. Situated sixteen miles north of Alturas on main highway. Flag station of N. C. O. R. R. on place.

I have lived on this ranch for 20 years and wish to retire, and am offering it for sale at an extremely low price. Don't delay if you wish to get a genuine bargain, but write to

J. H. BOWERS
ALTURAS, CAL.



RANCH HOUSE OF R. H. RALSTON
Photo by Reisen, Alturas

RUSSELL HOLMES RALSTON

Large Ranch Owner and Modoc Pioneer
Canby, California

Mr. Ralston came to Modoc County in 1875, at the age of eighteen years, and with his father began farming and stock raising. As soon as of age he pre-empted one hundred and sixty acres of land, where he now lives, and has acquired by purchases eleven hundred and sixty acres in Hot Spring Valley.

His ranch is one of the finest properties in that section and is all tillable bottom lands, bordering on the Pit River, about sixteen miles from Alturas, and as level as a house floor. This Ranch will be offered for sale, and is no doubt one of the best bargains in Modoc County.

For Sale.

1040 acres; 3 mountain streams run full length of ranch; good apple, alfalfa, garden, hay and grain land. Finest range on both sides of ranch. Eight miles from Alturas. Five houses and four barns. School house in home field. Ice and milk house, blacksmith shop, etc. Good home orchard, 350 acres meadow hay land, 100 acres broken plow land, 400 acres more tillable, balance pasture. County roads run through ranch. Well ditched, and all tillable land can be irrigated; water rights riparian, oldest and best, abundance of water and water-power for any and all purposes. For sale.

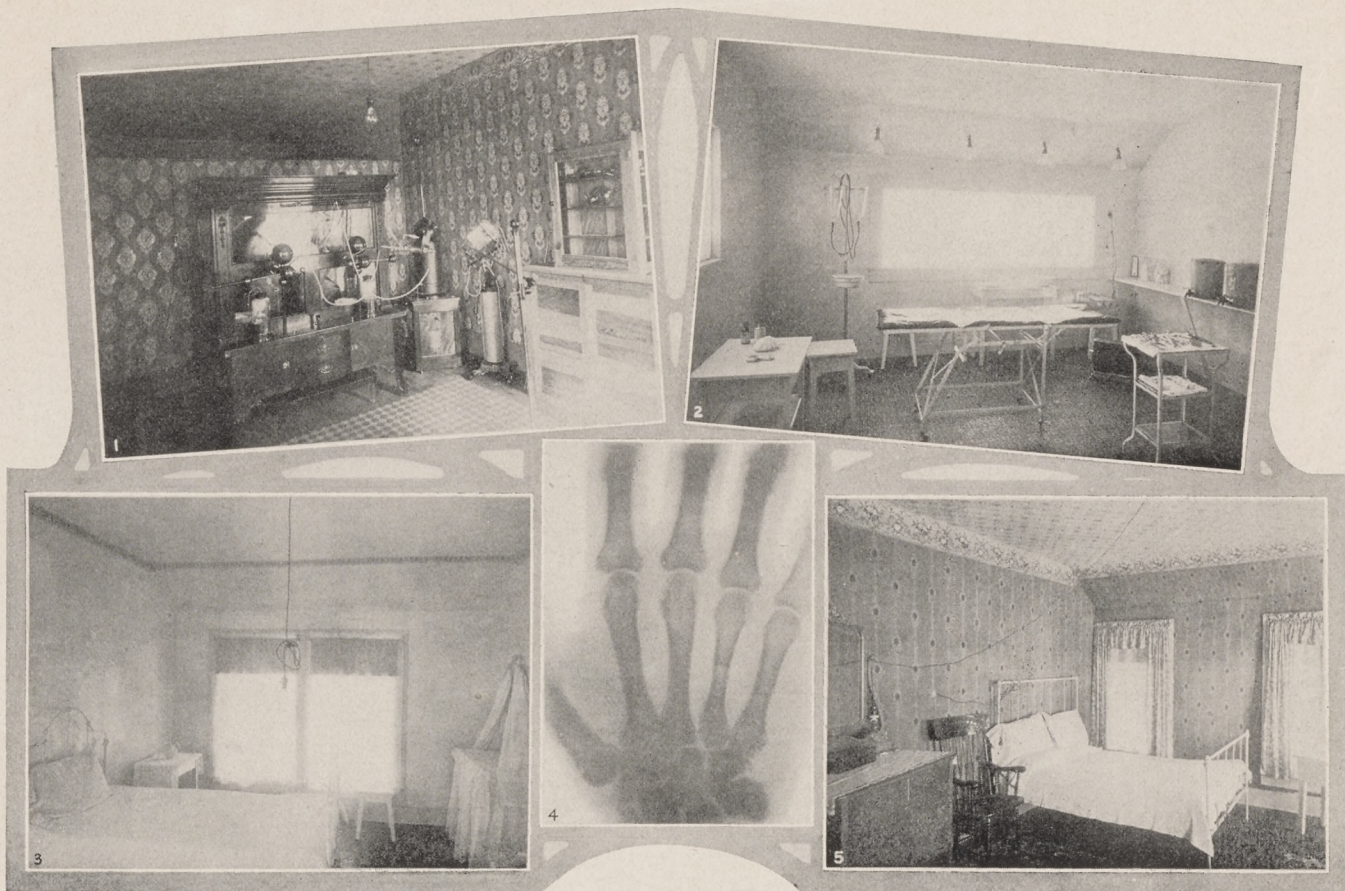
W. T. NEFF,
ALTURAS, CAL.

Ranch of Theo. Renner

Goose Lake Valley

An ideal spot is the ranch of Mr. Renner, situated on the shore of Goose Lake, about four miles from the town of Davis Creek. His holdings consist of 252 acres, 12 of which are in alfalfa, 50 acres in grain, five in orchard and garden, 19 in beach and pasture, the balance being all good hay land. His ranch has a frontage of nearly one mile right on the lake. Water is furnished by Davis Creek, which runs through the ranch.

Mr. Renner is offering this ranch for sale, as he wants to retire. It is a bargain for some one. Address Mr. Renner at Davis Creek for particulars.



1. ELECTRICAL AND X-RAY ROOM

3. MATERNITY ROOM

4. X-Ray of Man's Hand
Showing Broken Bone
at Cross. Made at Dr.
Coates' Sanitarium.

Photos by Matthews,
Cedarville

2. OPERATING ROOM

5. SURGICAL PATIENT'S ROOM

THE above interior views, taken at random, from DR. COATES' SANITARIUM, CEDARVILLE, CALIFORNIA, speak eloquently of the preparedness of this NEW INSTITUTION, to care for the sick. SKILLED SURGEONS, TRAINED NURSES, MODERN EQUIPMENT, WELL LIGHTED UP-TO-DATE OPERATING ROOM, X-RAY ROOM, QUIET SURROUNDINGS, SPLENDID CLIMATE. The most difficult and delicate surgical operations are being successfully performed here. DOCTOR, your patient will get the best of care, and you will be treated RIGHT.

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